LOST ART BOOKS

THE LOST ART OF Matt Baker

VOL. 1

THE COMPLETE Canteen Kate

Introduction by Steven Ringgenberg • Edited by Joseph V. Procopio

THE LOST ART OF

Matt Baker

VOL. 1

THE COMPLETE

Canteen Kate

LOST ART BOOKS, the flagship series from Picture This Press, collects and preserves the works of illustrators and cartoonists from the late 19th through the mid-20th centuries. Too many of these artists have gone underappreciated for too long, with much of their work uncollected or unexamined for decades, if at all. The Lost Art Books series aims to preserve this cultural heritage by re-introducing these artists to new generations of working illustrators, historians, and admirers of things beautiful.

PICTURE THIS PRESS is dedicated to broadening the appreciation and awareness of the artists who work in the fields of illustration, cartooning, graphic arts, photography, and poster design.

OTHER LOST ART BOOKS

The Lost Art of Zim: Cartoons & Caricatures (2010)

The Lost Art of E.T. Reed: Prehistoric Peeps (2010)

The Lost Art of Frederick Richardson (2010)

The Lost Art of Heinrich Kley, Volumes 1 & 2 (2012)

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The Illustrated Bibliographical Dictionary of Cartoonists (forthcoming)

The Lost Art of Ethel Hays (forthcoming)

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THE COMPLETE Canteen Kate

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & EDITOR'S NOTE

"I love to share the things I love with the people I love."

This was something my mother once said to me, and it is a succinct expression of the animating impulse behind Lost Art Books. These books are about legacies, and Lost Art Books is her legacy as well as mine. No expression of gratitude for my mother's guiding spirit will ever feel sufficient, but I think she knew I took what she said to heart.

As always, many hands and hearts went into making this volume. Steven Ringgenberg enthusiastically stepped up to write an erudite introduction and has helped spread the word about this book in ways beyond reasonable expectations. Jim Vadeboncoeur, Jr. once again proved himself to be the patron saint of comics and illustration scholarship, speedily contributing the last needed piece of the puzzle. Kieran Daly, Parisa Damian, and Andrew Adams of Winking Fish elevated the book's design to something worthy of Baker's art. R.C. Harvey's moral support cannot be underestimated, and I'm glad to know he's in my corner. Finally, Ellen Levy's contributions exceed enumeration. Besides carving out the space and time in our lives needed to produce this volume, she brings a formidable set of editorial skills to bear on every Lost Art Book.

Prevalent in material of this nature, there will be cultural and ethnic stereotypes that modern audiences may find problematic. These do not reflect the views of the publisher or any of this book's contributors.

As for the production and editorial choices guiding our first foray into comic book reproduction, we tried to find the most pleasing balance between honoring the artist's intentions and working within the limitations of source material that was considered disposable and thus not worthy of quality printing. Our restoration efforts concentrated on restoring some of the color's lost vibrancy and removing the distracting artifacts of yellowed, foxed paper and a multitude of printing defects. We selectively addressed occasional color registration problems. The philosophical debates around how to best reproduce this material continue unabated. Our ethos is to emphasize the artwork over the decaying physicality of the object on which it was reproduced.

The stories in this volume are sequenced in chronological order according to original publication date. Every page of this volume was scanned and restored from original issues within the publisher's collection, barring one comic borrowed and scanned from another collector.—J.V.P.

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"Matt Baker—A Way with Women" copyright © 2013 Steven Ringgenberg

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Clarence Matthew Baker (Dec. 10, 1921–August 11, 1959)

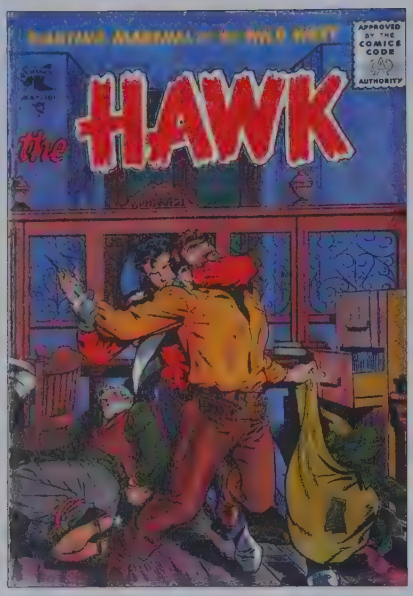
Matt Baker

A Way With Women

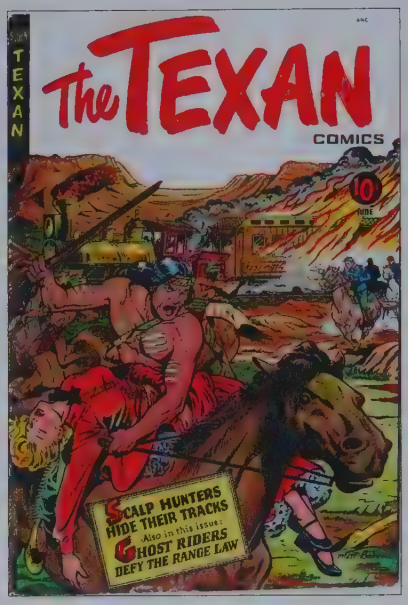
Dapper, elegant, self-assured, and movie star handsome, Matt Baker was one of the finest draftsmen to ever work in the comics industry, though he had little formal art training. Baker's way with the female form served him well when he segued from his earlier superhero, science fiction, and jungle adventure stories in the late 1940s into the romance genre in the early 1950s. His women were some of the most beautiful ever to grace a comic book page. Unfortunately, his life was cut tragically short when he was felled by a heart attack in 1959 at age 37, just before the Silver Age superhero resurgence got into high gear a few years later. It's a loss to all comics fans that, at the time of Baker's death, the comics business was but an anemic ghost of its former self, thereby limiting his artistic opportunities. It's an intriguing game of "What If" to consider what Baker might have accomplished if he had lived long enough to participate in the superhero revival of the 1960s at Marvel Comics. Imagine Matt Baker drawing the Scarlet Witch, the Wasp, Mary Jane Watson, Pepper Potts, Marvel Girl, or even Millie the Model.

From a historical perspective, Baker's career is notable for a variety of reasons. Primarily, he was one of the first, and indeed, one of the very *few* African American comics artists working in the 1940s and 1950s. Among his other noteworthy accomplishments as a cartoonist, Baker drew covers and interior art for some of the very first 3-D comics during the short-lived fad of the early 1950s. While at St. John Publishing, Baker also drew one of the very first graphic novels ever published, *It Rhymes with Lust* (1950), a 126-page soap opera intended to appeal to older readers, featuring Baker's patented brand of sexy femme fatales. Working exclusively for the St. John line for several years, Baker was the publisher's definitive cover artist, drawing 219 covers for various titles by the time he stopped working for St. John in 1955. Baker also achieved a kind of comic book infamy when his voluptuously sexy cover for *Phantom Lady* #17 was featured in Frederic Wertham's muckraking *Seduction of the Innocent* (1954) book as an example of a "headlights" cover that also featured bondage, something that, according to Wertham at least, would appeal only to sadists.

If Matt Baker is remembered for no other reason than his superb covers and dynamic stories for Fox Features' *Phantom Lady* title, he would still be a legend. The Phantom Lady is one of the sexiest of all costumed heroines (and incidentally had no superpowers), with one of the best costumes (courtesy of frequent Baker collaborator Alex Blum). The Phantom Lady's adventures were published by Fox Feature Syndicate as part of its constant efforts to boost sales by chasing the hot trends. In the post-WWII era, when the sales of superhero comics dried up, comics publishers turned to "good girl" art as one way to pump up sales by appealing to an older readership. Although other good artists like Jack Kamen drew the Phantom Lady, Baker was the definitive artist on the series, contributing seven covers and most of the interior art.



The Hawk *#12 (St. John, 1955)*



The Texan *#8 (St. John, 1950)*

Cinderella Love *#25 (St. John, 1954)*

Colleagues remembered Baker as a polite, nattily dressed gentleman who was either talkative and friendly or quiet and reserved, depending on where he was working. In some work situations, Baker may have kept more to himself due to the pervasive racism of the day, acutely conscious of being the only African American in the room. Yet, he was able to transcend racial considerations because of his talent; he earned respect everywhere he worked due to his speed and the uniformly high quality of his work. Another factor that may have contributed to Baker's personal reserve is the possibility that he was bisexual or gay, something that was asserted by his close friend, Frank Giusto. Although we live in more enlightened times, consider what it must have been like to be a gay black man in the 1940s and '50s, when racism and homophobia were the societal norms.

Despite the brevity of his comics career (only 15 years), he was incredibly prolific and had a reputation as a hard worker. Knowing that his weak heart might end his life prematurely, Baker may have been driven to make the most of every day. Friends and family members remember that he would stay up late, working through the night, smoking cigarettes and listening to jazz while he drew.

For years, Baker was best known to old-time comics fans as a "good girl" artist for his luscious depictions of the female form in comics like *Canteen Kate*, *The Phantom Lady*, *Teenage Romances*, and a whole bevy of different romance titles for St. John, Atlas/Marvel, Charlton, and others. However, it deserves emphasizing that Baker wasn't just a top "good girl" artist—he was versatile enough to tackle genres like superheroes (albeit usually featuring sexy female sidekicks or damsels in distress), jungle adventures, war stories, westerns, and humor (again, usually featuring sexy teenage girls or women). Among the more interesting aspects of Baker's style is that he forged his own artistic path, unlike many of his contemporaries, who were either inspired by or just slavishly copied the styles of Alex Raymond, Hal Foster, and Milton Caniff. Not only did Baker's characters look different than anyone else's (barring the legion of inferior imitators who subsequently copied his style and "swiped" his luscious female figures), but he also wasn't afraid to experiment with his page layouts and odd panel shapes if it served his dynamic storytelling.

All of Baker's 22 "Canteen Kate" stories featured in this volume were originally done for St. John Publishing, where Baker worked exclusively from 1952 until 1954. The company ran into financial trouble due to the crash of the 3-D craze, in which publisher Archer St. John had invested heavily. After 1954, Baker was no longer exclusive to St. John but continued to freelance there until 1955. The last Baker cover for St. John appeared on *Secrets of True Love* #1, cover-dated February 1958, but it was obviously an inventory job from the 1954–55 period that had remained unpublished. Baker's "Sky Girl" (aka Ginger Maguire), which Baker had done for Fiction House's *Jumbo Comics* anthology, can be seen as a prototype for Canteen Kate. One of the notable things about Canteen Kate is her costume. She was invariably shown in olive drab uniform shorts with her blouse unbuttoned halfway down the front to display her cleavage. Her nickname derives from the fact that she runs the canteen for the Marines, a sort of diner and enlisted men's club where they hung out when off duty.

In these stories, the Cold War atmosphere is minimal, even though they were published and set during the Korean War. The stories are all light-hearted, humorous romps, even though the Chinese Army makes occasional appearances. Really, they're just typical service comedies, though focused on the eponymous, beautiful heroine, whose sidekicks are her enlisted Marine pals, a bad-tempered sergeant, and an infrequently used Korean boy nicknamed Small Change, who is the Marines' mascot. The stories always focus on the humorous scrapes Kate and her pals get into on base and not on the horrors of war. If you took away the uniforms and the Korean War setting, the hijinks in the "Canteen Kate" plots could easily be transposed into an Archie Comic. It's too bad Baker never worked on any of the Archie titles—Betty and Veronica could've been even sexier than Bob Montana or Dan DeCarlo ever drew them.

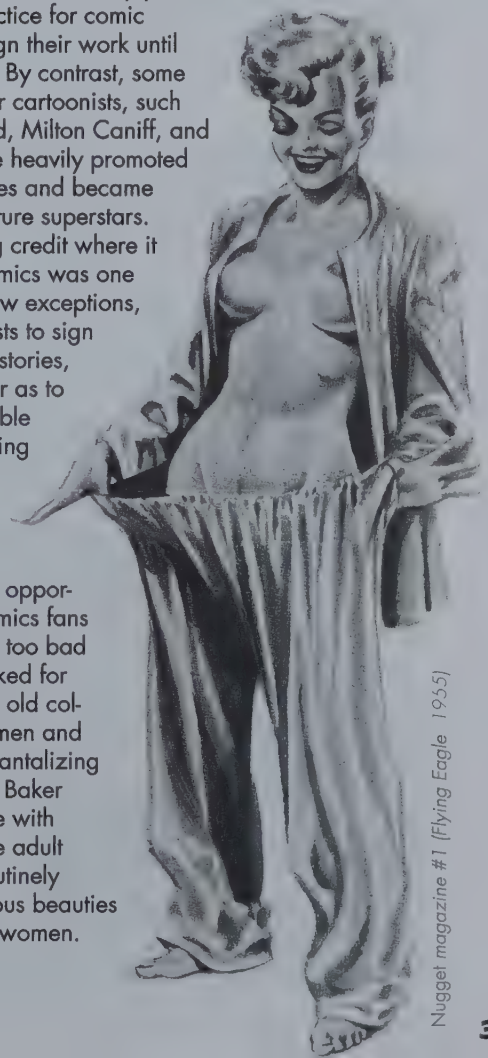
The "Canteen Kate" stories first appeared in *Fightin' Marines* #15 then continued to appear in subsequent issues of that series and three issues of her own title, with a final "Canteen Kate" story appearing in the one-off *Anchors Andrews* in 1953. After St. John sold the rights to *Fightin' Marines* to Charlton, "Canteen Kate" reprint stories appeared in the Charlton issues #14–16. The book that you are holding in your hand represents the first time that all of these stories have been collected in a single volume.

By the mid-1950s, as comic book companies were folding up their tents due to slumping sales and censorship pressure from the newly established Comics Code Authority, Baker had fewer and fewer outlets for his comic book work, and finally realized his early dream of becoming a magazine illustrator, though more out of financial necessity than anything else. While breaking into the field of magazine illustration on titles like *Nugget*, Baker took on shorter-length, lower-paying western and romance comics stories for the publishers Atlas, Charlton, and Harvey. In the 1954–56 period, he also managed to get work from Quality Comics before that company, too, gave up the ghost, thereafter selling off many of their characters and titles to DC Comics.

Nugget *magazine #1 (Flying Eagle, 1955)*

Baker's work for Harvey produced some interesting artistic pairings when his pencils were inked by Al Williamson in a five-page story that appeared in *Alarming Tales* #5, and Williamson's fellow "Fleagle Gang" member Angelo Torres did some very nice inking over Baker's pencils for three romance stories drawn in 1958. Interestingly, only two of the jobs inked by Torres were published during that period; the final one did not see print until 1962, several years after Baker's death. Because so little was known about Baker for many years, there was a fair amount of misinformation circulating about him, which wasn't helped by inker Vince Colletta's incorrect assertion to comics historian Ron Goulart that Baker died in 1962. Baker's family has since confirmed that he passed away in 1959, at the age of 37, done in by a heart weakened by a childhood bout of rheumatic fever (Baker probably didn't help his heart problems by smoking cigarettes, either).

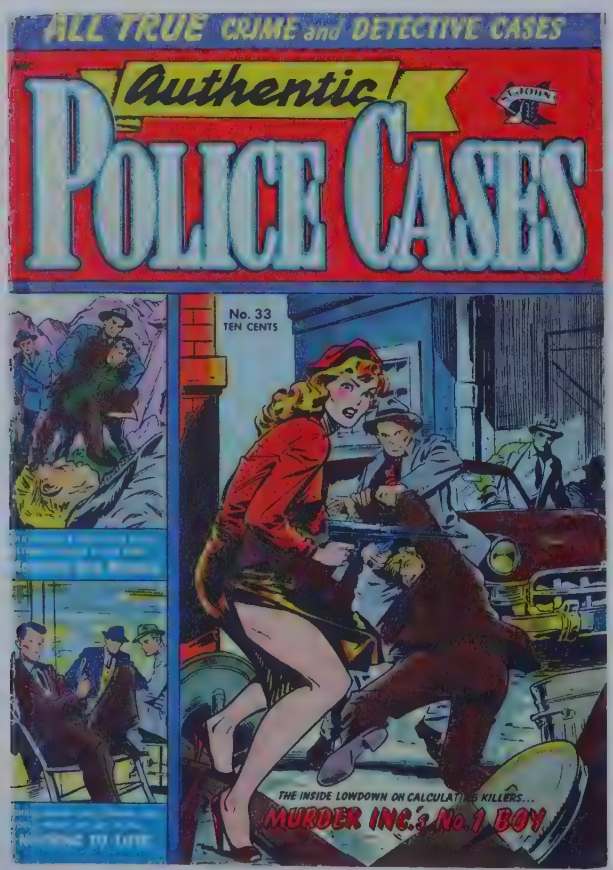
In spite of an abbreviated career, Baker managed to be very prolific. What makes it difficult for comics historians like Jim Vadeboncoeur and others to nail down a definitive list of Baker's work is that he was rarely allowed to sign his art, though his signature can be seen on some of his later cover work, especially those done for St. John (about half of which are signed). It wasn't racial discrimination that kept Baker from signing his work; unlike newspaper cartoonists, it simply was not common practice for comic book artists to sign their work until the early 1960s. By contrast, some of the newspaper cartoonists, such as Alex Raymond, Milton Caniff, and E.C. Segar, were heavily promoted by their syndicates and became wealthy, pop culture superstars. In terms of giving credit where it was due, EC Comics was one of the period's few exceptions, allowing the artists to sign their covers and stories, even going as far as to promote their stable of artists by running biographies of them in all of its titles. In another case of a missed opportunity that left comics fans poorer, it's really too bad Baker never worked for EC alongside his old colleagues Jack Kamen and Al Feldstein. It's tantalizing to consider what Baker would have done with EC Comics' more adult scripts, which routinely featured murderous beauties and exotic alien women.



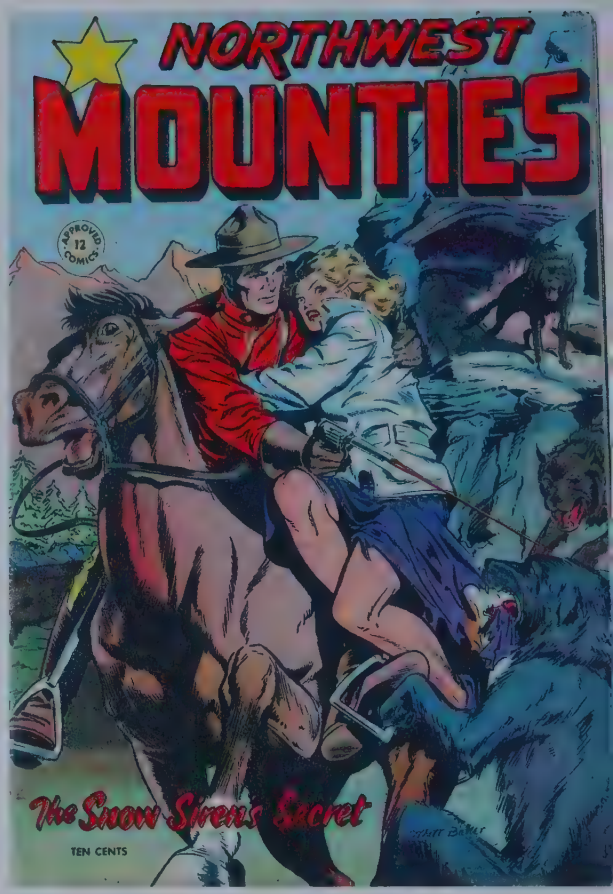
Nugget *magazine #1 (Flying Eagle 1955)*

A further factor that makes it hard to definitively identify Baker's work is just how good he was. Everywhere Baker worked—Fox Features, the Jerry Iger shop, St. John Publishing—he was the star artist, which meant that other artists looked at his work and copied his figures, especially his gorgeous women. At the Iger shop especially, owner Jerry Iger actively encouraged other artists to copy Baker's style. Some artists obviously swiped Baker's graceful figures, and Iger added to the confusion by sometimes repackaging old Baker stories with altered art and rewritten scripts. Furthermore, the way comics were produced in the Iger shop, often assembly-line style, confounds efforts to positively identify Baker's comics. Sometimes multiple artists would pencil different pages in a story, with a single inker imposing a unified "house" style on the finished art.

Identifying Baker's work becomes less problematic for comics scholars after 1948, when he left the Iger shop to work for Fiction House. While at Fiction House, he drew the "Camilla" strip in *Jungle Comics* and "Mysta of the Moon" in *Planet Comics*. Baker did the "Camilla" strip through 1949, and may have contributed layouts to some of the later stories. He did "Mysta of the Moon" in issues #53–59 (1948–49), with inks provided by friend and frequent Baker collaborator Roy Osrin. Fiction House colleague Bob Lubbers remembered Baker as a friendly man with a good sense of humor.



Authentic Police Cases *#3 (St. John, 1954)*



Approved Comics *#12 (St. John, 1954)*

In the hectic, anything-goes period following World War II, the numerous comic book companies of the day kept the talented Baker as busy as he wanted to be, allowing Baker to live far better than most African Americans of the day. He used this money to support his family and purchase all the fine clothes he wanted (he was known for his sartorial flair). Baker eventually bought a canary yellow Oldsmobile 88 with a red leather interior, becoming one of the first members of his family to own a car, or learn to drive, for that matter. Family members like his half-brother Fred Robinson and Matt's nephew Matt D. Baker (the son of Matt's brother, Robert) recalled in *Matt Baker: The Art of Glamour* (TwoMorrows, 2013) that Matt adored his mother and doted on her, providing her with whatever his considerable cartooning income could afford, eventually buying a house for her. He was generous with other family members as well, allowing his nephew to live in his New York apartment, rent-free for over a year, even though much of his cartooning income had unfortunately dried up by that time.

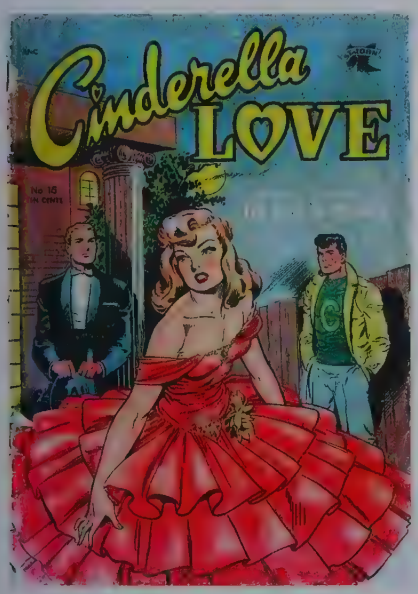
His half-brother and his nephew both noted that Matt was generous to a fault. Fred Robinson, who was younger than Matt and his older brother John, idolized his older siblings and sought to be like them. As Robinson recalled in a 2004 interview conducted by comics historian Jim Amash, "Both (Matt) and John were born more or less with pencils in their hands. They always drew, from the time that they were little boys right up to their deaths." Friends like Frank Giusto confirm that Matt Baker was in love with drawing. Even though he spent hours at the drawing board, churning out bevies of well-endowed beauties for comic book covers and interior pages, in his rare free time, he would draw for his own amusement, even sending his friend Giusto heavily illustrated envelopes and letters while he was away in the Navy during World War II. In the same interview, Robinson went on to tell Amash, "Matt and John inspired me. I wanted to be like my big brothers." Robinson did, indeed, emulate his older brothers' drawing talent, going on to a long career as a commercial artist and art director (though he never drew comics). Nephew Matt D. Baker also told Amash, "I can remember that even during the year that I lived with him, comics were on the decline, but he would still get three or four stories at a time to draw. I'm sure that he got even more comics work back in the '40s, probably as much as he had time to do. He was able to turn things out so fast that he was in big demand."

Although his time on Earth was far too brief, Matt Baker left behind an amazing legacy of beautiful and influential artwork that is only now starting to be acknowledged properly. His artistic success is all the more remarkable when you consider that Baker was working in an industry that was dominated by white men, with relatively few women or minorities working in it. But as Fred Robinson noted, "The reason that Matt got so much work wasn't because he was black or white; he got it because he was good. It's as simple as that. If you're good, and you have what people want, they're going to use you...Other artists' women were like mannequins: they were all perfect and smooth, but they had no soul to them. But the women that Matt did created a fire within you, within your imagination...I think the 'Matt Baker woman' struck such a responsive chord because she was beautiful and strong." Baker's small army of fans is fortunate that he was around to share his vision with us. There will be more to come in future Picture This Press volumes of *The Lost Art of Matt Baker*. Stay tuned, Baker fans...the best is yet to come!

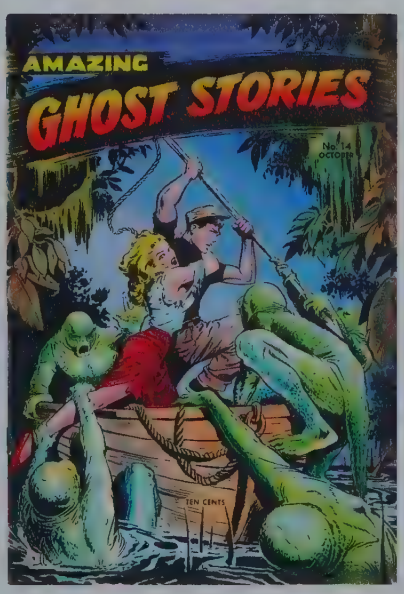
—Steven Ringgenberg

Steven Ringgenberg thanks Jon B. Cooke, John Morrow, and his publisher Joe Procopio for their gracious assistance with his research for this article. His primary source was TwoMorrows' Matt Baker: The Art of Glamour, *which is the most definitive book on this talented artist to date, and as such, is highly recommended to our readers.*

S.C. "Steve" Ringgenberg has been a freelance writer for more than 30 years, interviewing over 200 people in comics, film, and other areas of interest. He has written comics scripts and articles for DC, Marvel, Bongo Comics, Heavy Metal, and Dark Horse, authored six young adult mystery novels for Simon & Schuster, and co-wrote the book Al Williamson: Hidden Lands. *For more than a dozen years he wrote the "Dossier" column for* Heavy Metal *magazine. Currently, he is writing biographies of the EC Comics artists for Fantagraphics, and his first short story collection,* Zombie Gundown and Other Tales, *will be published in the fall of 2013. When not writing, he likes to read comics, listen to the blues, attend the Burning Man festival, travel the world, and plot global domination.*



Cinderella Love *#15 (St. John, 1954)*



Amazing Ghost Stories *#14 (St. John, 1954)*

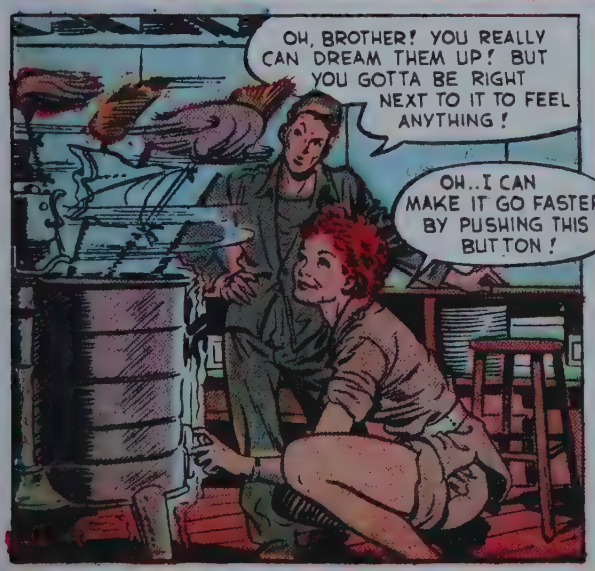
True Love Pictorial *#2 (St. John, 1953)*

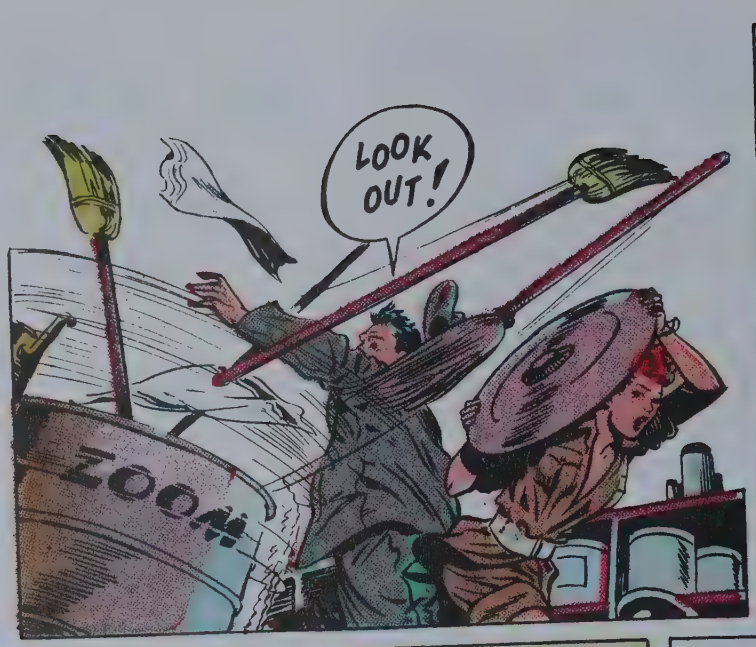
The Complete "Canteen Kate"

WHEN THE 'BOMBSHELL FROM BROOKLYN' LANDED IN JAPAN THE FUR STARTED FLYING! G.I.'S AND CO'S ALIKE AGREED THAT AN ENEMY BARRAGE COULDN'T STIR UP AS MUCH FIRE AS CANTEEN KATE, BUT HER INGENUITY WITH A GREEN APPLE PIE WON THEIR HEARTS AND FORGIVENESS UNTIL ONE HOT DAY...

Canteen Kate

in "The BIG FREEZE"


OH, BROTHER! YOU REALLY CAN DREAM THEM UP! BUT YOU GOTTA BE RIGHT NEXT TO IT TO FEEL ANYTHING!
OH..I CAN MAKE IT GO FASTER BY PUSHING THIS BUTTON!


LOOK OUT!
ZOOM!

YOU AND YOUR CRAZY IDEAS! NOW.. IF YOU HAD AN AIR CONDITIONING UNIT LIKE MAJOR HERRINGBONE'S...
HIS AIR CONDITIONER! THAT'S JUST THE THING!

MAJOR HERRINGBONE WAS IN HERE A FEW DAYS AGO AND SAID HE WAS GOING TO THE STATES FOR A MONTH. WHY COULDN'T WE BORROW IT?
OH.. NO! COUNT ME OUT!

JUST A MINUTE! YOU MEAN YOU'RE GOING TO LET ME STAY HERE AND SUFFER JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID OF MAJOR HERRINGBONE?
THAT'S RIGHT!

A FINE SOLDIER YOU ARE! RUNNING AWAY FROM A PROBLEM! WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WERE IN THE FRONT LINES? RUN AWAY? YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF!
WELL, I..I...

THAT'S BETTER! MEET ME TONIGHT WITH A JEEP AND WE'LL GO GET THE MAJOR'S AIR CONDITIONER.
WHY DON'T THEY MAKE THE WOMEN THE GENERALS AROUND HERE?!

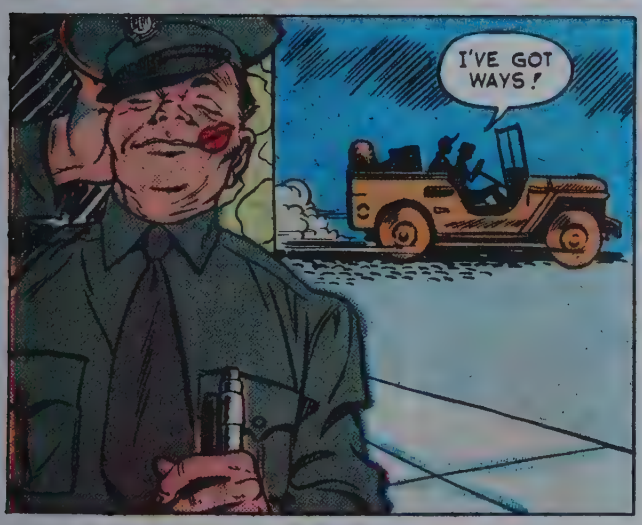
THAT NIGHT...
WE SHOULDN'T BE DOIN' THIS!
STOP TALKING AND START DRIVING! IT'S TOO HOT TO ARGUE!
UH-OH! A SENTRY! WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
LEAVE IT TO ME! PARK THE JEEP HERE AND WAIT. I'LL GO TALK TO HIM.
WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE?!
ULP!
WELL, YOU SEE, IT'S ABOUT THE CAMOUFLAGE MATERIAL ON THE KITCHEN SHELF THAT GOT MIXED UP WITH THE STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE AND THE PICKLE JAR. AN' THEN MAJOR HERRINGBONE TOLD ME TO WRITE A REPORT AN'.. YOU SEE?
OH, YEAH.. YEAH! I.. I UNDERSTAND EXACTLY.. WHAT YOU MEAN (?!?) ER.. GO AHEAD.
THANKS, SARGE.
AL.. C'MON!
HOW'D YOU DO IT?
SIMPLE! YOU JUST GOTTA KNOW HOW TO TALK TO THOSE GUYS!

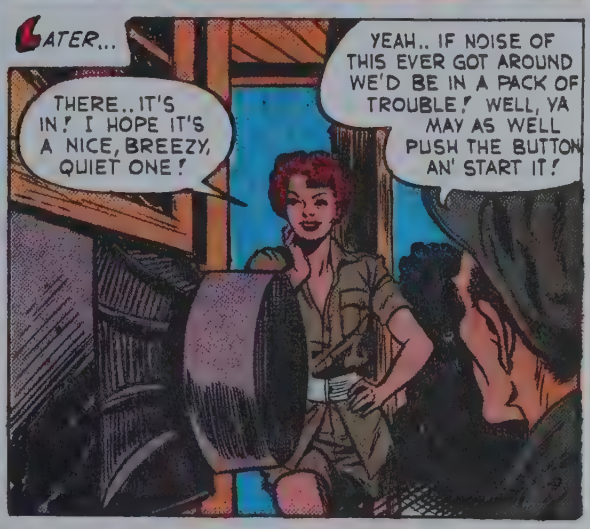
GEE, IT'S DARK! BUT I THINK IT'S SOMEWHERE ALONG HERE...
WE'LL FIND IT, DON'T WORRY!
THERE IT IS! BY THE TOP WINDOW!
WE'LL HAVE TO CLIMB UP.
GOSH, IT'S A BIG ONE! IT REALLY OUGHT TO KEEP THE CANTEEN NICE AND COOL!
JUST REMEMBER.. WE GOTTA RETURN THIS BEFORE MAJOR HERRING-BONE GETS BACK!
IT'S LOOSE NOW... BUT IT'S SO BIG! HOW'LL WE GET IT DOWN?
I'LL HAFTA GET A ROPE AN...AN'..
L-LOOK OUT!
WELL.. THAT SOLVES *THAT* PROBLEM!
UGH! THIS IS *HEAVY!*
QUIET! NOW WE HAVE TO GET IT PAST THE SENTRY!

HOW'LL WE DO IT?
I'LL DISTRACT HIM.. AND YOU TAKE IT OUT TO THE JEEP! I'LL MEET YOU THERE.

PSST!
WHO.. ME?

A SHORT WHILE LATER...
OKAY.. LET'S GET GOING!
HOW DID YOU EVER MANAGE THAT?


I'VE GOT WAYS!


LATER...
THERE.. IT'S IN! I HOPE IT'S A NICE, BREEZY, QUIET ONE!
YEAH.. IF NOISE OF THIS EVER GOT AROUND WE'D BE IN A PACK OF TROUBLE! WELL, YA MAY AS WELL PUSH THE BUTTON AN' START IT!

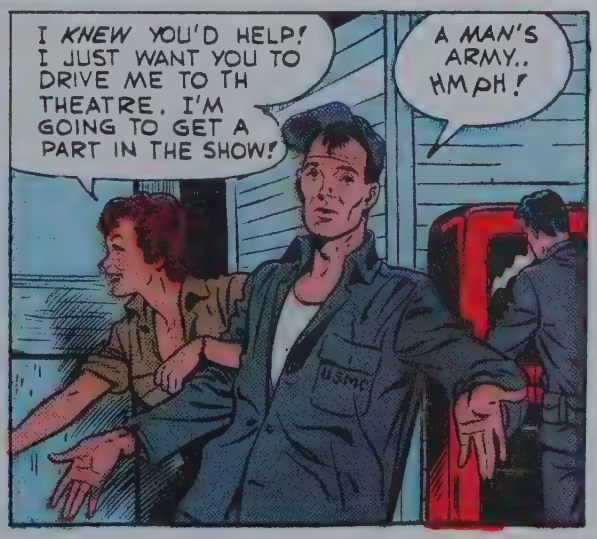
USMC

W-WHAT IS IT??
IT'S N-NOT AN AIR C-CONDITIONER! IT'S.. IT'S AN AIR RAID SIREN!
AIEEEEEEEEE

SHUT IT OFF! SOMEONE'S COMING!
ARRR
I CAN'T REACH IT IN TIME! WE'LL HAVE TO HIDE! C'MON.. THE DEEP FREEZE!
COMING, SIR!
SHUT THAT THING OFF!
YES, SIR!
YES, COLONEL!
EEE!
IF WE FIND THE PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS, I'LL MAKE IT PLENTY HOT FOR THEM!
TH-THAT WOULDN'T BE A B-BAD IDEA!
WELL, Y-YOU WANT T-TO BE C-COOL! I H-HOPE YOU'RE S-SATISFIE
Matt Bak

Canteen Kate in "CALL TO ARMS"

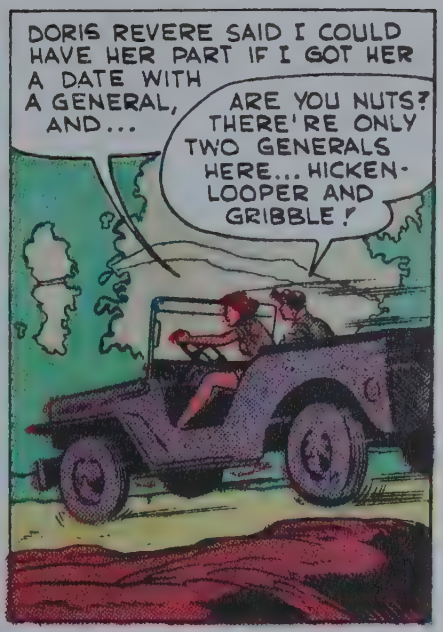
BIG SHOW TONIGHT
featuring
GEE, I WISH I COULD BE IN A SHOW! TO BE THE CENTER OF ATTRACTION, WITH EVERYONE LOOKIN' AT YOU! WHY CAN'T IT HAPPEN TO ME?
WOW! LOOK AT THAT DAME!
USMC
USMC

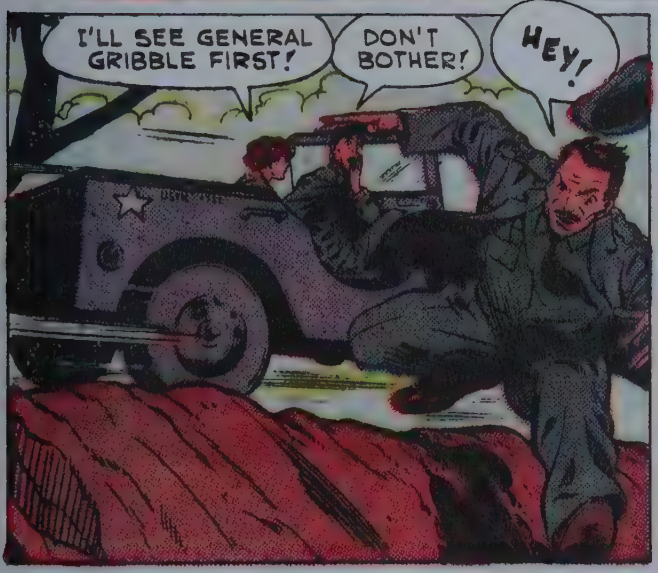


A FEW MINUTES LATER...
YES, MISS.. I'M THE DIRECTOR. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
I WANT TO BE IN THE SHOW!
OH, NO! NOT ANOTHER ONE! ALL THESE PEOPLE WITH NO TALENT COMING AROUND HERE DRIVING ME CRAZY! THE ANSWER IS NO! ABSOLUTELY.. POSSITIVELY...
BUT..
PARDON ME, MISS. I HAVE TO MOVE THIS PIECE OF SCENERY.
ULP! ER.. AHEM... ON SECOND THOUGHT.. MAYBE I CAN FIND A PART FOR YOU...
WONDERFUL! WHAT'LL I DO.. SING..OR DANC OR...
YOU'LL BE AN UNDERSTUDY TO DORIS REVERE. SHE'S OVER THERE.
GEE! SHE MUST BE THE STAR!
HELLO, MISS REVERE. I'M YOUR UNDER-STUDY... UH.. YOU DON'T LOOK VERY WELL. MAYBE YOU'D RATHER NOT GO ON TONIGHT!
I NEVER FELT BETTER IN MY LIFE! UNDER-STUDIES ARE ALL ALIKE! THEY'RE VERY NICE.. BUT THEY ALWAYS WANT YOU TO DROP DEAD!
I CAN'T MISS MY PERFORM-ANCE. I MUSTN'T DISAPPOIN MY PUBLIC, YOU KNOW! THERE MIGHT EVEN BE A GENERAL IN THE AUDIENCE! I'VE NEVER HAD A DATE WITH A GENERAL!
A DATE WIT A GENERAL OH, I CAN GET A GENERAL FOR YOU ANY TIM

YOU CAN? YOU GET ME A DATE WITH A GENERAL AND YOU CAN GO ON IN MY PLACE. THE HECK WITH THE SHOW!
IT'S A DEAL!

MOVE OVER! I'M DRIVING! I'VE GOTTA HURRY!
WHY? WHAT'S UP?

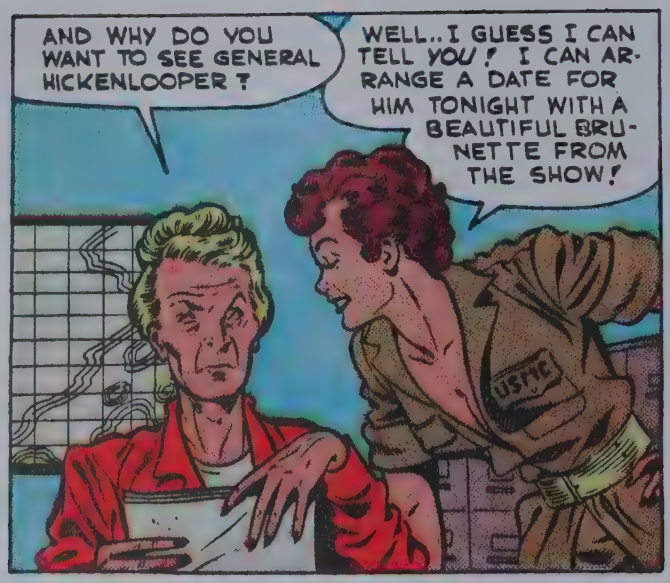

DORIS REVERE SAID I COULD HAVE HER PART IF I GOT HER A DATE WITH A GENERAL, AND...
ARE YOU NUTS? THERE'RE ONLY TWO GENERALS HERE... HICKEN-LOOPER AND GRIBBLE!


I'LL SEE GENERAL GRIBBLE FIRST!
DON'T BOTHER!
HEY!

WHY NOT?
HE'S THE MAN YOU JUST PUSHED OVER THE LEDGE!

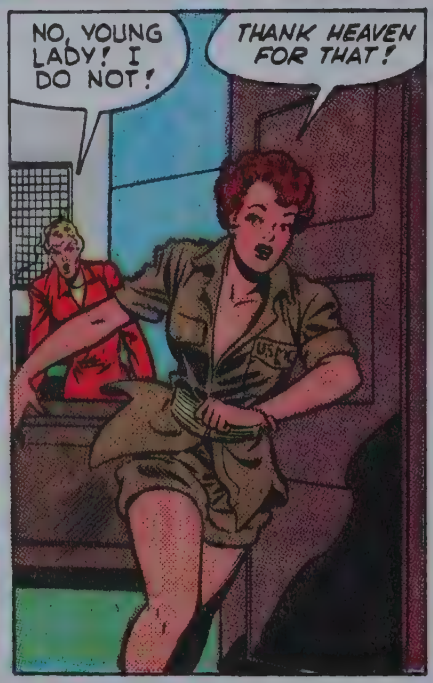
HERE'S GENERAL HICKENLOOPER'S OFFICE. I'LL TALK TO *HIM*!
NOW DON'T DO ANYTHING CRAZY, KATE!

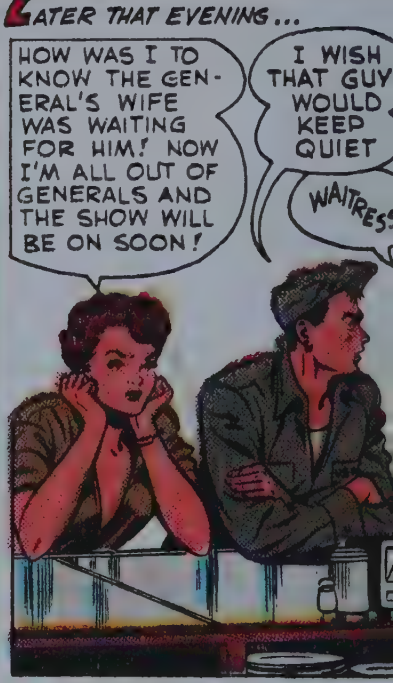
UMMM... THAT MUST BE HIS SEC-RETARY!

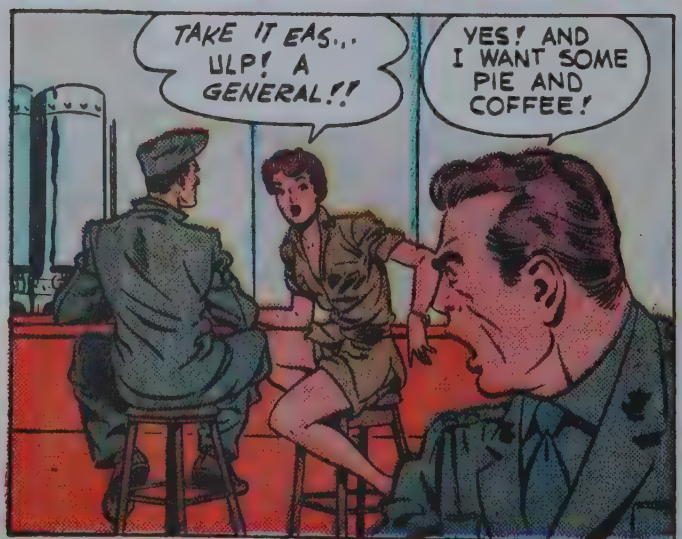

AND WHY DO YOU WANT TO SEE GENERAL HICKENLOOPER?
WELL..I GUESS I CAN TELL YOU! I CAN ARRANGE A DATE FOR HIM TONIGHT WITH A BEAUTIFUL BRUNETTE FROM THE SHOW!
USMC

YOUNG LADY! HOW DARE YOU! DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
NO.. I DON'T...

I'M MRS. HICKENLOOPER.. THE GENERAL'S WIFE!
D-DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?

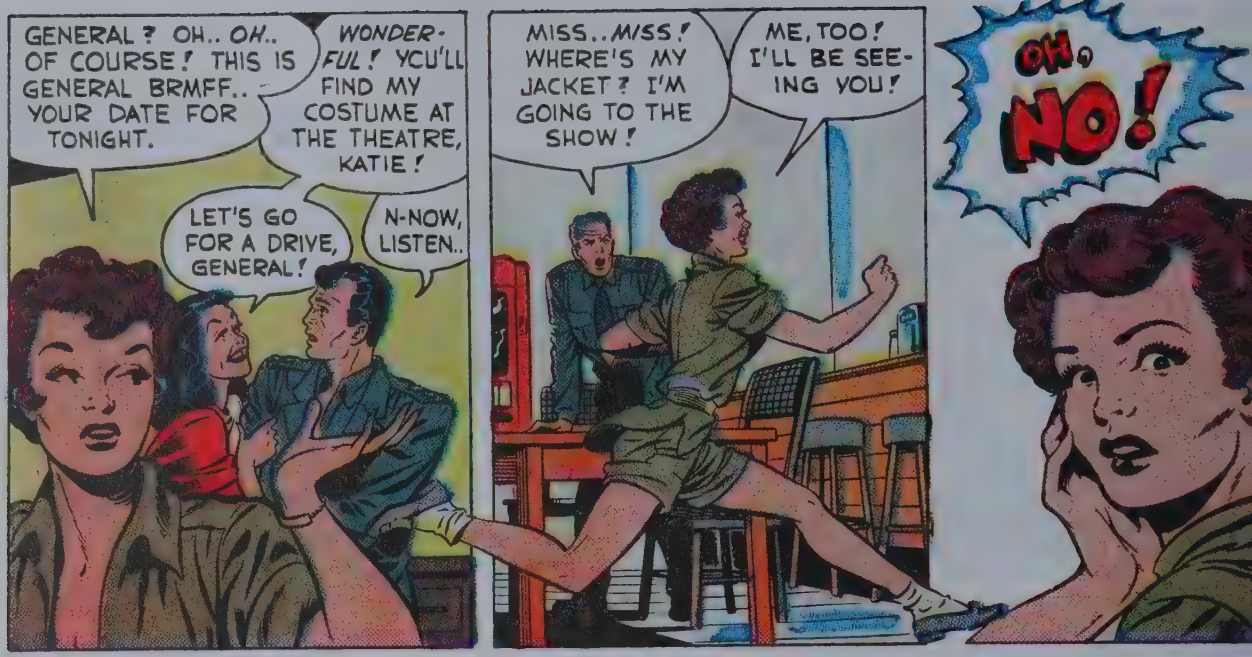

NO, YOUNG LADY! I DO NOT!
THANK HEAVEN FOR THAT!
USMC


LATER THAT EVENING...
HOW WAS I TO KNOW THE GENERAL'S WIFE WAS WAITING FOR HIM! NOW I'M ALL OUT OF GENERALS AND THE SHOW WILL BE ON SOON!
I WISH THAT GUY WOULD KEEP QUIET
WAITRESS!

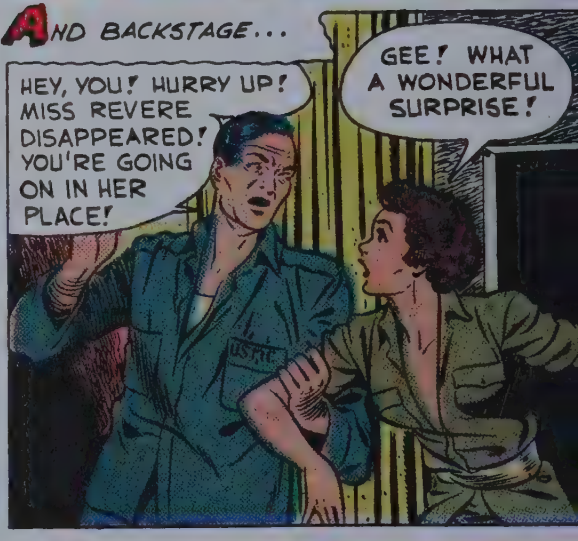

TAKE IT EAS.. ULP! A GENERAL!!
YES! AND I WANT SOME PIE AND COFFEE!

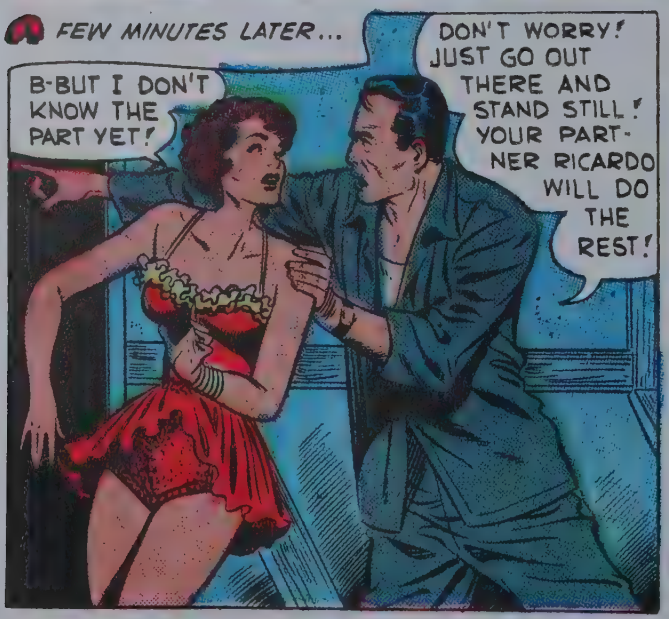
I'M NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES WITH THIS ONE! YOU PHONE DORIS REVERE AND TELL HER TO COME TO THE BACK OF THE CANTEEN. I'LL KEEP THE GENERAL HERE!
BUT HOW?

JUST WATCH ME!
I'M AFRAID TO!
YOUNG LADY! LOOK OUT!
OOPS! I'M SO SORRY!
I'D ALMOST SWEAR YOU DID THAT ON PURPOSE!
OH, NO! I'LL CLEAN YOUR JACKET AND BRING IT BACK TO YOU IN A JIFFY!
HERE. HOLD THIS! IT WON'T BE LONG NOW!
THAT'S WHAT I'M AFRAID OF! I CAN SEE A FIRING SQUAD RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES!
GEE, AL.. YOU'D MAKE A GOOD-LOOKING GENERAL! WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT ON AND SEE WHAT YOU'D LOOK LIKE?
WHO.. ME? OH, NO! NEVER.. NEVER.. NEVER...
TWO SECONDS LATER...
SEE? A PERFECT FIT!
IT FITS BETTER THAN THE PRISON CLOTHES I'LL BE WEARING IF THE GENERAL WALKS IN HERE!
USMC
MISS REVERE!
OH, SO YOU DID GET A GENERAL, AFTER ALL! AND HE'S SO YOUNG, TOO!
BUT.. BUT.. BUT...


GENERAL? OH.. OH.. OF COURSE! THIS IS GENERAL BRMFF.. YOUR DATE FOR TONIGHT.
WONDERFUL! YOU'LL FIND MY COSTUME AT THE THEATRE, KATIE!
LET'S GO FOR A DRIVE, GENERAL!
N-NOW, LISTEN..
MISS..MISS! WHERE'S MY JACKET? I'M GOING TO THE SHOW!
ME, TOO! I'LL BE SEEING YOU!
OH, NO!

I HATE TO DO THIS, GENERAL, BUT IT'S A CASE OF SAFETY FIRST!


AND BACKSTAGE...
HEY, YOU! HURRY UP! MISS REVERE DISAPPEARED! YOU'RE GOING ON IN HER PLACE!
GEE! WHAT A WONDERFUL SURPRISE!


A FEW MINUTES LATER...
B-BUT I DON'T KNOW THE PART YET!
DON'T WORRY! JUST GO OUT THERE AND STAND STILL! YOUR PARTNER RICARDO WILL DO THE REST!

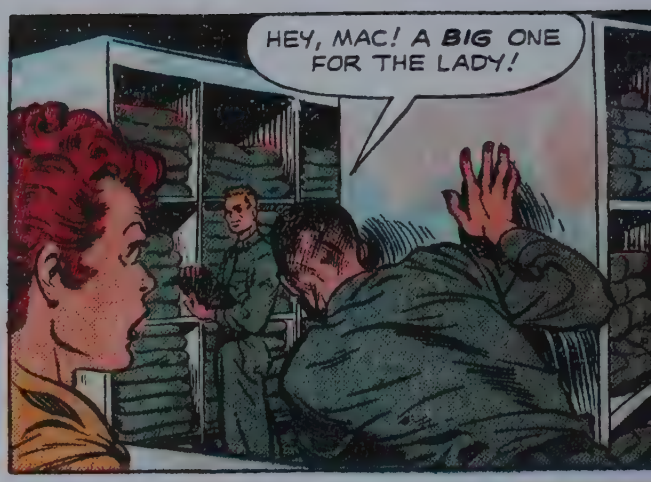
SNAFUED AGAIN!

Canteen Kate in "Tailor Maid"

WHAT'S THAT OUTFIT FOR? A MASQUERADE?
DON'T BE FUNNY, KATE! IT'S MY NEW UNIFORM... JUST ISSUED TO ME BY THE SUPPLY SERGEANT! HE SAID IT WAS MY SIZE!

THEY ONLY SEEM TO HAVE TWO SIZES AROUND HERE... TOO BIG AND TOO SMALL! YOU TAKE THAT RIGHT BACK AND EXCHANGE IT!
NUTHIN' DOIN'! YOU DON'T KNOW THE SUPPLY SERGEANT!

A SHORT WHILE LATER...
...NOW YOU HAVE ALL THE DETAILS! THE SHOULDERS MUSTN'T BE TOO BROAD, AND SHOULD TAPER DOWN CAREFULLY TO THE WAIST THEN A SLIGHT FLARE!
SURE, SURE! I UNDERSTAND PERFECTLY!


HEY, MAC! A BIG ONE FOR THE LADY!

WISE GUY!

HERE! NOW GET BEHIND THE COUNTER AND PUT IT ON! IT SHOULD BE A PERFECT FIT!
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGE THESE THINGS!
MAG

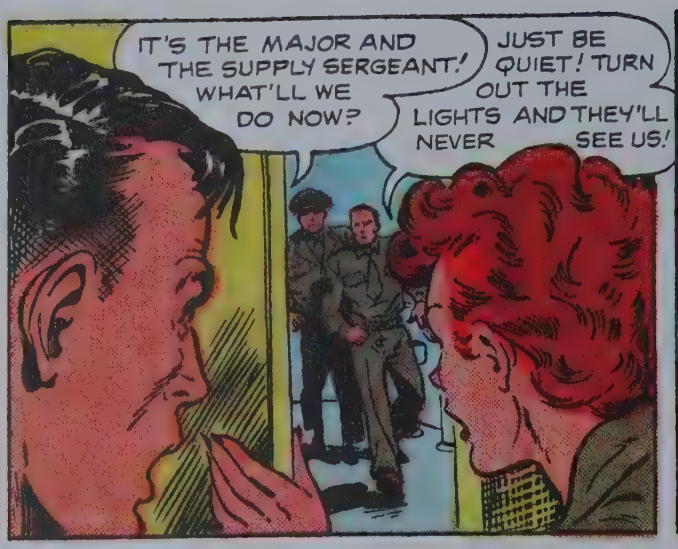
SEE! JUST RIGHT! YOU LOOK LIKE AN ESQUIRE AD!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!

LOOK AGAIN!
OH! I FORGOT TO TELL HIM IT WASN'T FOR ME!

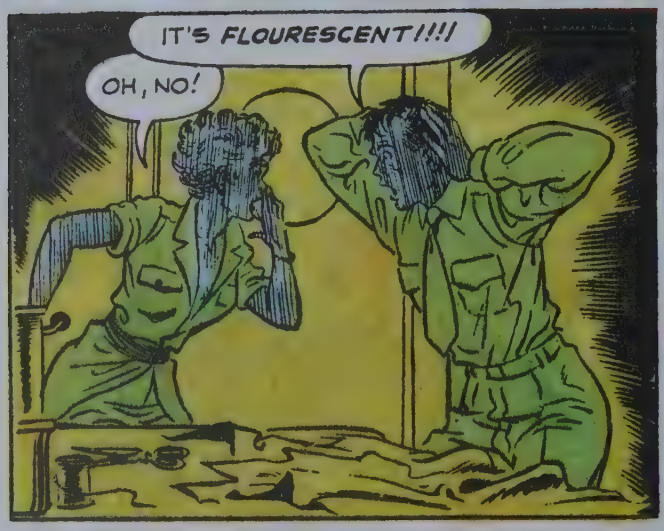
I'LL JUST HAVE TO TAKE IT BACK AND GET ANOTHER!
PLEASE... PLEASE! DON'T TRY TO HELP ME ANY MORE!
YOU GAVE ME THE WRONG UNIFORM BEFORE... SO I THOUGHT I'D PICK ONE OUT MYSELF!
OH, NO! NO SOAP! NO ONE GOES BACK THERE BUT THE GUYS WHO WORK HERE!
DID YOU HEAR THAT, JOE? WHAT NERVE! SHE WANTS TO PICK OUT HER OWN UNIFORM!
NOW'S MY CHANCE!
LET'S SEE... WHERE'S AL'S SIZE?
HEY! WHERE'D SHE GO?
UH-OH! I'D BETTER DUCK IN HERE!
SAY... THIS MATERIAL IS JUST RIGHT! I'LL MAKE A UNIFORM FOR AL!
NOW I'LL HAVE TO GET THIS STUFF PAST THAT NASTY SUPPLY SERGEANT!
CHEMICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY

A FEW MINUTES LATER...
NOPE! NOT ME!
SAY, BUDDY--YOU DIDN'T SEE A GIRL BACK HERE, DID YOU?
KEEP OUT
SO LONG, SARGE... I'LL BE SEEIN' YOU!
WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!
SAY, PRIVATE! COME BACK HERE!
UH-OH! MAJOR HERRINGBONE!
DON'T YOU KNOW ABOUT SALUTING AN OFFICER? WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? DIDN'T YOU SEE MY UNIFORM?
WHAT ARE YOU COMPLAINING ABOUT?...
...LOOK AT THE ONE I GOT!
WHY, YOU--

IT'S A GIRL! COME BACK HERE! COME BACK, I SAY!
AL! I'M GLAD YOU'RE STILL HERE.
IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU GOT BACK! HOW'D YOU MAKE OUT?
SWELL! I FOUND SOME MATERIAL TO MAKE YOU A UNIFORM... AND THERE'LL BE ENOUGH LEFT OVER FOR AN OUTFIT FOR ME, TOO!
CANTEEN KATE... FASHION CONSULTANT TO THE MARINES! WHAT'LL HAPPEN NEXT?
DON'T BE SMART! HELP ME CLEAR SOME SPACE SO I CAN GET STARTED!
I FEEL AS IF I'M DIGGIN' MY OWN GRAVE!
HOURS LATER...
WELL... HERE YOU ARE! I FINISHED MINE, TOO!
GOOD! ANYTHING'LL BE BETTER THAN WHAT I'M WEARING NOW! IT'S DRAFTY!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! IT FITS!
QUIET! SOMEONE'S COMING!


IT'S THE MAJOR AND THE SUPPLY SERGEANT! WHAT'LL WE DO NOW?
JUST BE QUIET! TURN OUT THE LIGHTS AND THEY'LL NEVER SEE US!

WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO FIND THAT MISSING MATERIAL, SERGEANT?
THE CHEMICAL DIVISION WAS DOING SOME EXPERIMENTING WITH IT!


IT'S FLOURESCENT!!!!
OH, NO!

IT'S THAT GIRL!
AN' TH' MATERIAL!
QUICK! LET
RUN FOR IT
OUT THE
BACK WAY

FOLLOW THOSE UNIFORMS!
YES, SIR!
MP
MP

LATER...
AT LEAST I GOT YOU A PERFECT FIT!
YEAH... BUT IT DIDN'T HAFTA BE A PRISON SUIT!!

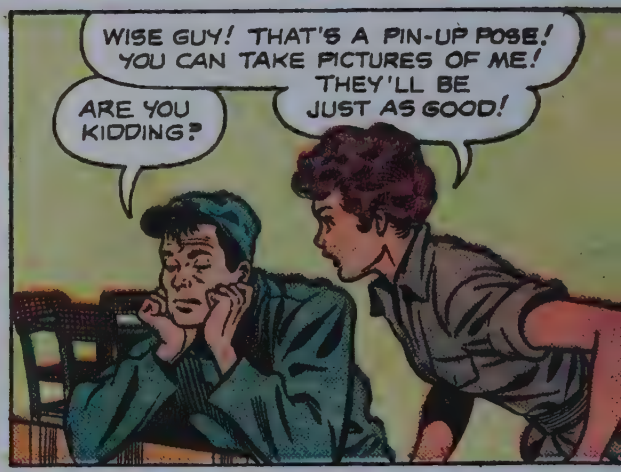
Canteen Kate

IN "CANDID CUTIE"

BOY! LOOK AT THOSE PICTURES!
WHAT LEGS!
WOW!
PIN-UPS! THAT'S ALL THEY THINK OF! AL WOULD NEVER WASTE HIS TIME LOOKING AT THOSE THINGS!
MAGAZINE

HERE! NOW YOU'VE GOT TWICE AS MANY!
BUT THEY'RE NOT MINE! THEY BELONG TO MAJOR HERRINGBONE!
MAJOR HERRINGBONE?
HE WANTED ME TO PUT THEM UP IN HIS OFFICE! NOW HE'LL PUT ME IN THE BRIG!
DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT A THING! I HAVE AN IDEA!
IN THAT CASE...I MIGHT AS WELL SAV TIME AN' GO TO THE BRIG RIGHT NOW!

DON'T BE SMART! LOOK AT ME! DOESN'T THIS MAKE YOU THINK OF ANYTHING?
YEAH! THAT THERE ARE NO DAMES IN THE BRIG!


WISE GUY! THAT'S A PIN-UP POSE! YOU CAN TAKE PICTURES OF ME! THEY'LL BE JUST AS GOOD!
ARE YOU KIDDING?

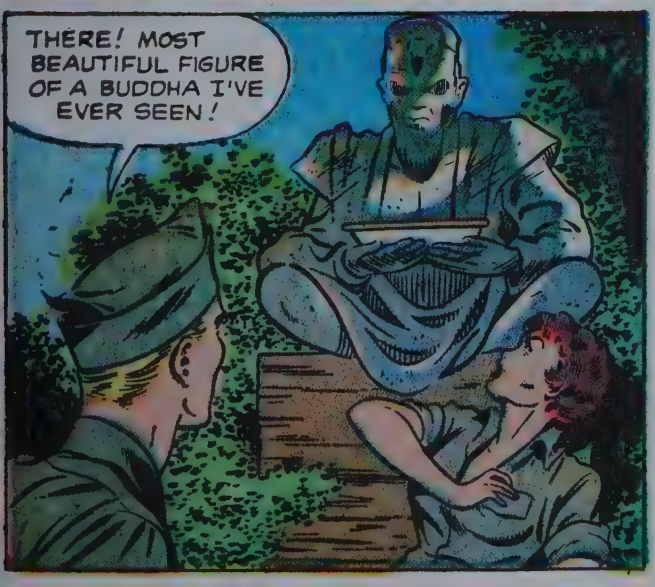
A FEW MINUTES LATER...
I ALWAYS WANTED MY PICTURE TO BE SHOWN ALL OVER CAMP!

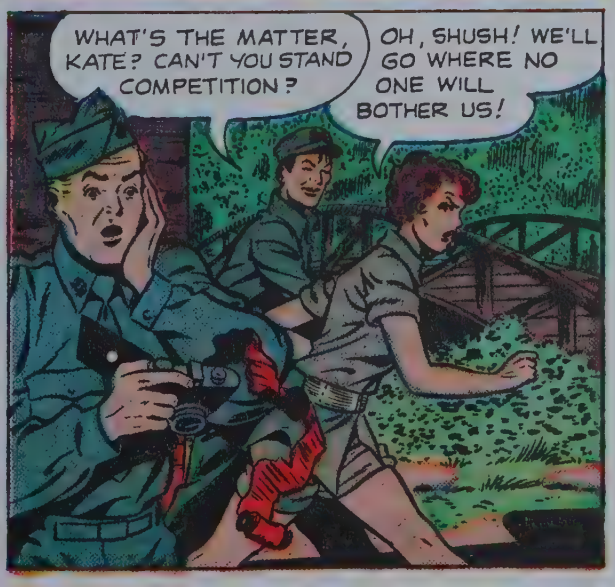
I STILL DON'T THINK WE SHOULD DO THIS!
ANYONE ELSE WOULD BE GLAD TO TAKE MY PICTURE!

TAKING PICTURES? GEE... COULD I TAKE ONE, TOO?
SEE?

WHAT LINES! WHAT A FIGURE! IT'S TERRIFIC!
OH, THANK YOU! TELL ME WHEN YOU'RE READY!

I'M READY NOW. JUST MOVE A LITTLE TO THE LEFT.
CLICK!


THERE! MOST BEAUTIFUL FIGURE OF A BUDDHA I'VE EVER SEEN!

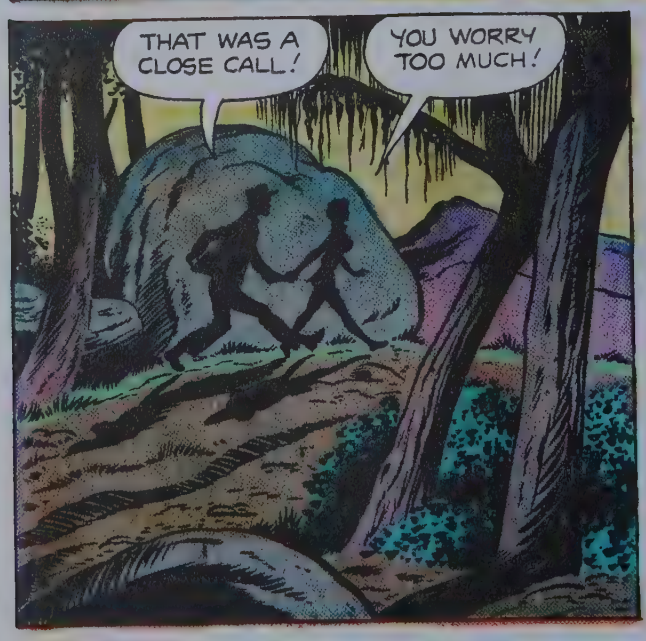

WHAT'S THE MATTER, KATE? CAN'T YOU STAND COMPETITION?
OH, SHUSH! WE'LL GO WHERE NO ONE WILL BOTHER US!

WHY DO WE HAVE TO GO OUT TO THE WOODS?
THERE WON'T BE ANY INTERRUPTIONS!
USMC

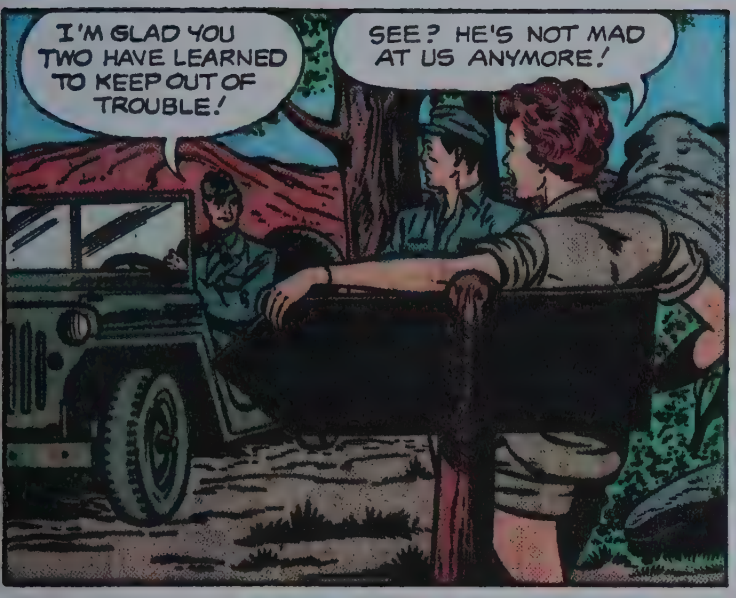
NOW... HOW DOES THIS LOOK?
LOOKS FINE, YOUNG LADY!

BUT YOU'RE SURE RUINING MY CAMOUFLAGE LESSON!
MAJOR HERRINGBONE!

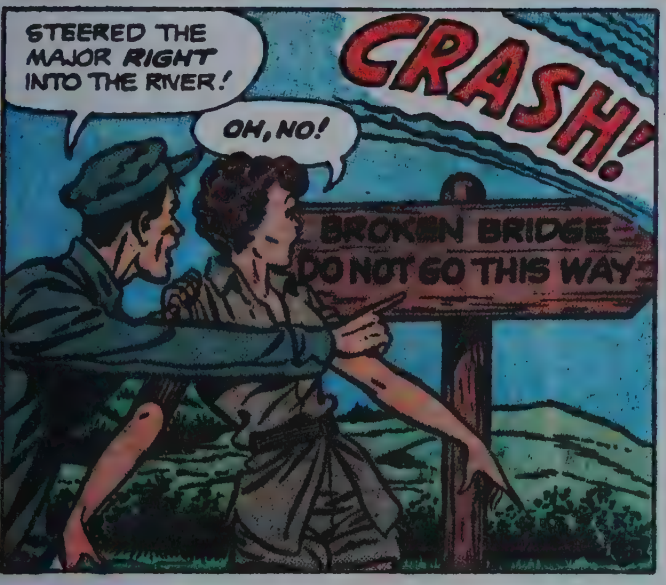
DON'T JUST STAND THERE! GET MOVING AND STAY AWAY FROM MY MANEUVERS!
YESSIR!
YESSIR!

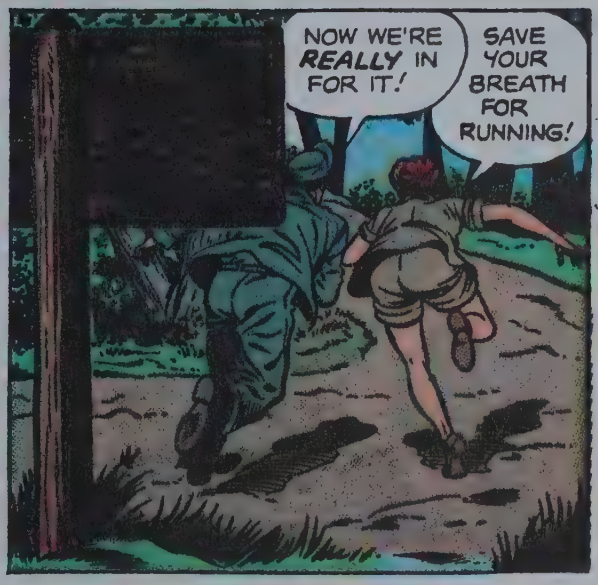

THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL!
YOU WORRY TOO MUCH!

TAKE ONE HERE! WE WON'T BE IN ANYONE'S WAY NOW!
I HOPE NOT!
BRIDGE
THIS WAY


I'M GLAD YOU TWO HAVE LEARNED TO KEEP OUT OF TROUBLE!
SEE? HE'S NOT MAD AT US ANYMORE!

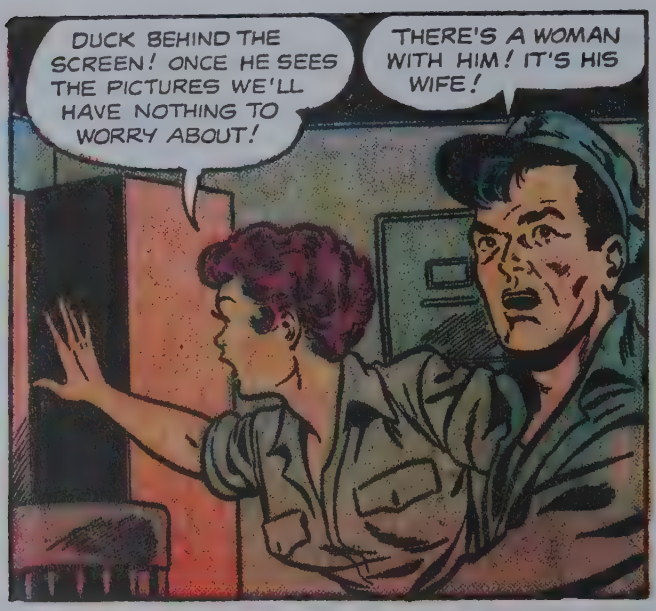
BUT HE WILL BE! LET'S GET OUTA HERE! YOU DID IT AGAIN!
DID WHAT?


STEERED THE MAJOR RIGHT INTO THE RIVER!
OH, NO!
CRASH!
BROKEN BRIDGE
DO NOT GO THIS WAY

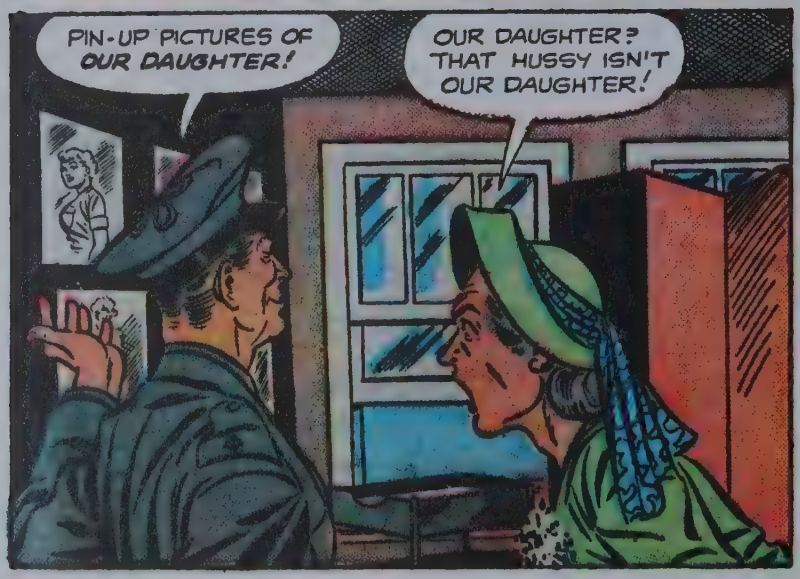

NOW WE'RE REALLY IN FOR IT!
SAVE YOUR BREATH FOR RUNNING!

LATER...
OH, NO! THEY'RE YOUR PICTURES-- SO YOU CAN GO IN HIS OFFICE AND PUT THEM UP!
COME ON, AL! DON'T BE SILLY! THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO GET BACK IN HIS GOOD GRACES. I SIGNED THEM "TO MAJOR HERRING-BONE, WITH LOVE."

THERE! I KNOW HE'LL LIKE THEM!
YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH! HERE HE COMES NOW!


DUCK BEHIND THE SCREEN! ONCE HE SEES THE PICTURES WE'LL HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!
THERE'S A WOMAN WITH HIM! IT'S HIS WIFE!

WELL... WHY DID YOU DRAG ME TO YOUR OFFICE AS SOON AS I GOT OFF THE PLANE?
BECAUSE, MY DEAR, I WANTED TO SHOW YOU MY PIN-UP PICTURES...
GOSH! SHE CERTAINLY MUST BE BROAD-MINDED!


PIN-UP PICTURES OF OUR DAUGHTER!
OUR DAUGHTER? THAT HUSSY ISN'T OUR DAUGHTER!

OH, NO!

IT'S THAT HORRIBLE FEMALE!
I'M GETTIN' OUTA HERE!
LADIES FIRST!

Canteen Kate in "YOKOHAMA MELODRAMA"

OH! WE'RE OFF TO YOKAHAMA WHERE NOTHING CAN EVER HARM YA...
...WHERE THERE ARE GIRLS GALORE IF A GUY KNOWS THE SCORE...
HUH?
...NO BUGLERS CALLING...NO SERGEANTS BAWLING...
CIGA
MAGASIN

WHAT'S GOING ON? YOU'D THINK YOU WERE GETTING A DISCHARGE?
WE ARE!
YEAH! FOR TWO DAYS.
AN' WE'RE GETTING A FREE RIDE ON AN ARMY BOMBER!
USMC

SO LONG, KATE!
WE'LL BRING YOU BACK A SOUVENIR!
USMC
IF THAT EXCUSE FOR A MARINE THINKS HE'S GOING WITHOUT ME, HE'S CRAZY!! I'LL STOWAWAY!!
AT THE AIRSTRIP TWENTY MINUTES LATER...
GOING SOMEWHERE, LADY?
OOPS!
AIRP
CAN'T YOU READ SIGNS? THIS IS A RESTRICTED AREA... NO DAMES ALLOWED!
WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY! ...I'LL HIDE IN THIS TRUCK AND LET THE DRIVER SMUGGLE ME IN!
WHAT'S IN THAT TRUCK, LEATHERNECK?
NOTHING BUT A MESS OF OLD, WORN REGULATION SHOES, SARGE!
UNNH-H-?

LOOK, LADY, THE MARINE CORPS HAS NOTHING PERSONAL AGAINST YOU, BUT WON'T YOU KINDLY GO AWAY-
-AND STAY AWAY!!
ER-I DON'T MEAN TO BE CURIOUS, BUT WOULD YOU TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING?
I'M WASHING MY EXTRA UNIFORM, M'AM!!
YOU POOR BOY! YOU SHOULDN'T BE DOING THAT KIND OF WORK! THAT'S A WOMAN'S JOB! LET ME DO IT FOR YOU!!
GOSH!! THANKS!
BOY!! WHAT A BREAK!! THIS BEAUTIFUL DOLL WALKS UP TO ME AN' SAYS, MISTER, MAY I WASH YOUR UNIFORM!!
THAT I GOTTA SEE!
THERE SHE IS-- HEY, WAIT A MINUTE!
SHE'S NOT WASHING IT, SHE'S STEALING IT!

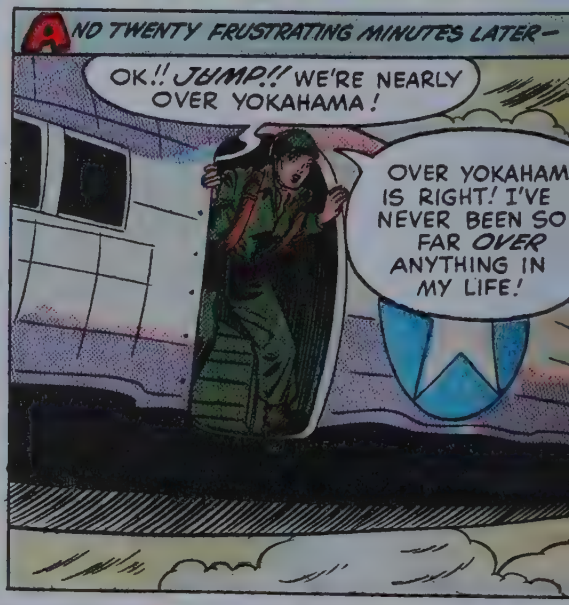
JUST A MINUTE, MARINE - WHAT'S THE PASSWORD?
AIR RES
PASSWORD? ER--OH, YES, THE PASSWORD!
USMC
HOW ABOUT "OPEN SESAME"?
TRY AGAIN!
ER-- "RUMPLESTILTSKIN"!
ARE YOU FINISHED PLAYING GAMES, MARINE
WHY-- ER--
OK!! YOU CAN GO THROUGH!!!
B-BUT-
I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER SAY "WIRE
AIR RES

KATE!
SH-SH!! BE QUIET, AL!
DID I HEAR YOU CALL THIS MARINE, KATE?
GULP! NO! I SAID MATE! WE'RE OLD SHIPMATES!
AYE, AYE, SIR!
KATE, YOU GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE!! IF THEY CATCH YOU IT'S GONNA BE TOO BAD!!
I'M GOING TO YOKAHAMA IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!!
HEY, YOU! YOU'RE ON THE WRONG LINE!!
WHO ME!!
YES, YOU! THIS IS YOUR LINE!! STEP LIVELY NOW!
WHERE IS THIS PLANE GOING TO, ANYWAY?
WE'RE HEADING TOWARD YOKAHAMA!!

WE'RE GETTING PRETTY CLOSE NOW!!
JUST WAIT TILL AL SEES ME! WILL HE BE SURPRISED!!

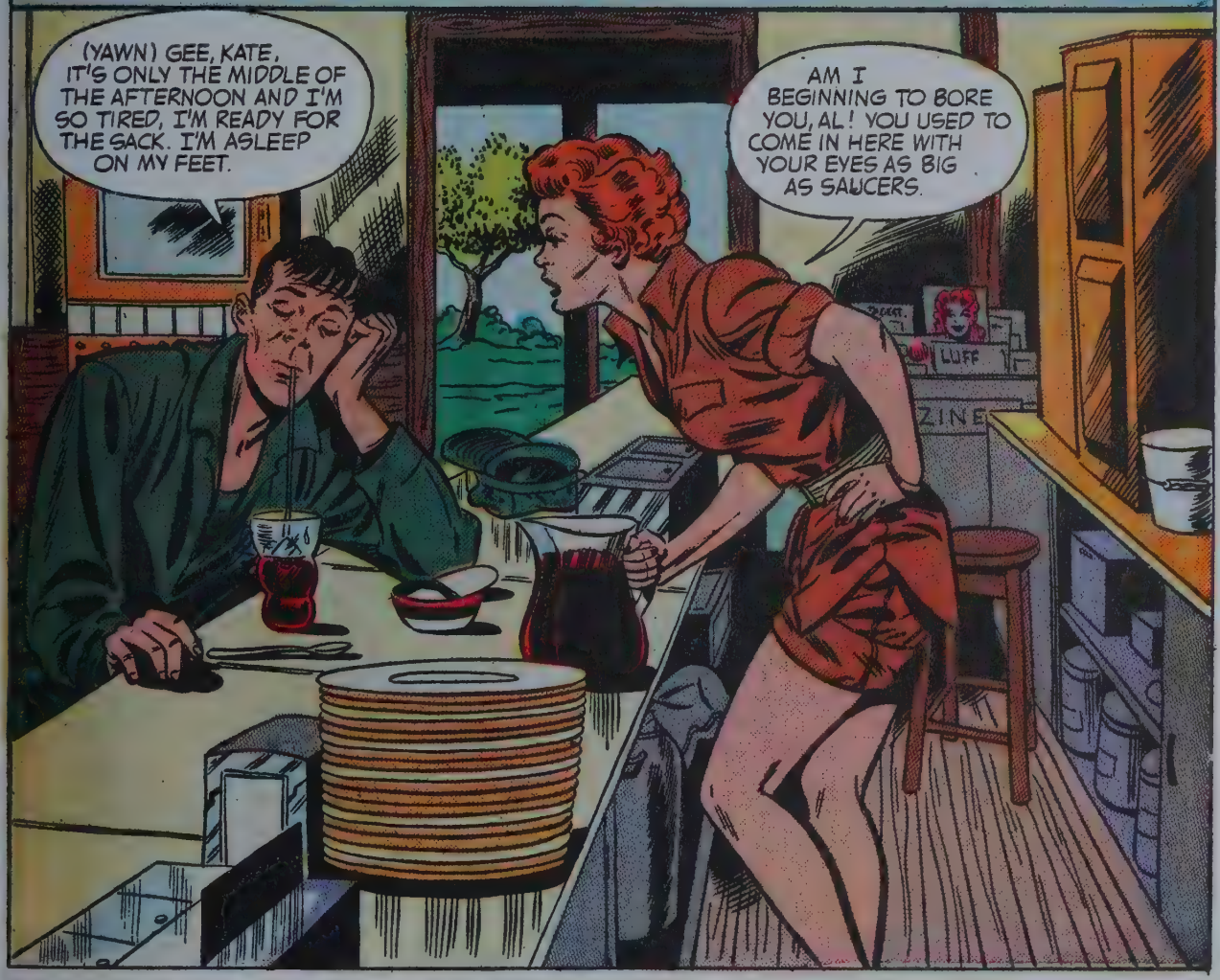
SAY, WHERE DOES THIS PLANE LAND?
LAND? BUDDY, I DON'T KNO WHERE OR WHEN – BUT WHA DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE *WHERE* THE PLANE LANDS?

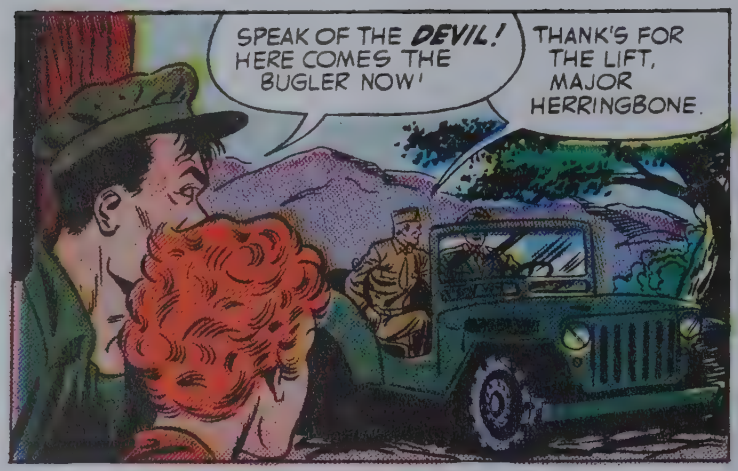
ALL THAT MATTERS IS WHERE THE *PARAMARINES* LAND!!
THE *PARAMARINES!!!*
YEAH! YOU'D BETTER GET INTO A CHUTE!


AND TWENTY FRUSTRATING MINUTES LATER–
OK!! *JUMP!!* WE'RE NEARLY OVER YOKAHAMA!
OVER YOKAHAM IS RIGHT! I'VE NEVER BEEN SO FAR *OVER* ANYTHING IN MY LIFE!

THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING TO ME! WHOEVER HEARD OF SPENDING A TWO-DAY VACATION IN A TREE!
THE END.

Canteen Kate in "Sleepy-Time Girl"


(YAWN) GEE, KATE, IT'S ONLY THE MIDDLE OF THE AFTERNOON AND I'M SO TIRED, I'M READY FOR THE SACK. I'M ASLEEP ON MY FEET.
AM I BEGINNING TO BORE YOU, AL! YOU USED TO COME IN HERE WITH YOUR EYES AS BIG AS SAUCERS.
LUFF
ZINE


SPEAK OF THE DEVIL! HERE COMES THE BUGLER NOW!
THANK'S FOR THE LIFT, MAJOR HERRINGBONE.

HE SEEMS LIKE SUCH A NICE BOY PERHA
IF YOU SPOKE TO HIM AND TOLD HIM H
WAS DISTURBING YOUR SLEEP--
COME ON, KATE, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS MAN'S ARMY!

WELL, I UNDERSTAND ONE THING-EITHER YOU GET MORE SLEEP OR YOU GET YOURSELF A NEW GIRL-FRIEND! I'LL HELP YOU FIGURE OUT A WAY.
EVERYTIME YOU START FIGURING I START WORRYING

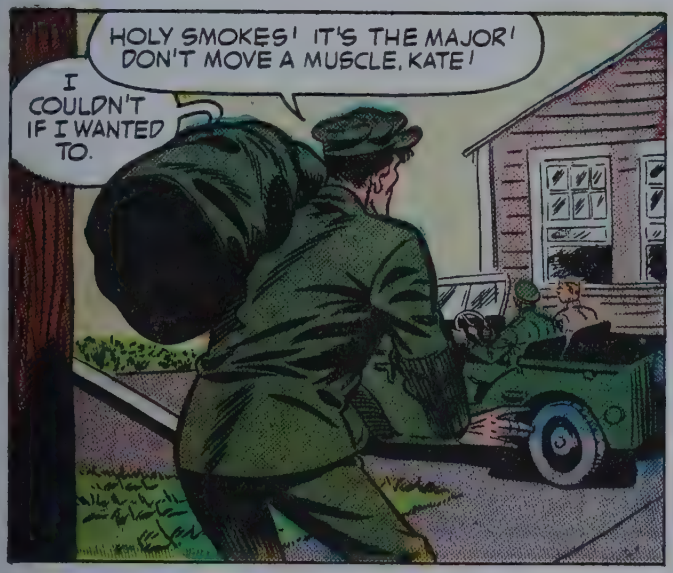
BUT I'VE GOT A SUREFIRE SCHEME, AL! WHICH IS THE BUGLER'S BARRACKS?
THAT ONE, WHY?

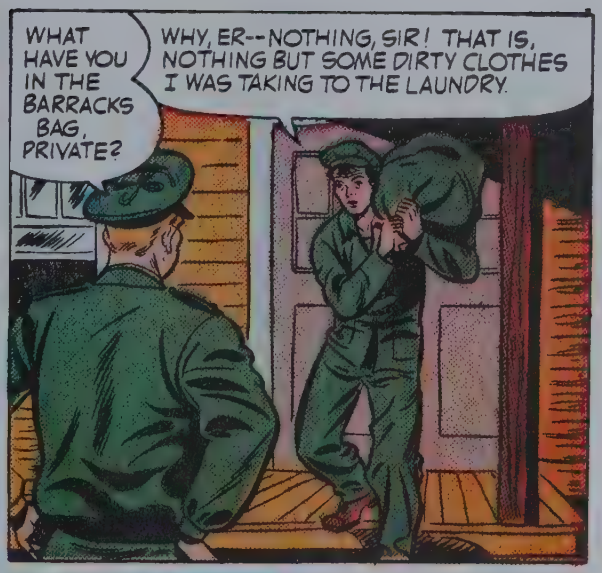
WE'LL GO INSIDE AND HIDE THE BUGLER'S BUGLE!
YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR MIND, KATE WE CAN'T GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING LIKE THAT. I WANT NO PART OF IT!

WITHOUT HIS BUGLE, THE BUGLER CAN'T SOUND REVEILLE AND YOU CAN SLEEP AS LONG AS YOU LIKE.
I'LL BE SLEEPING IN THE BRIG IF THEY FIND OUT I TOOK IT.

GIVE ME YOUR BARRACKS BAG. I'LL HIDE THE BUGLE IN IT. YOU STAND GUARD! IF ANYBODY COMES JUST WHISTLE!
ALL RIGHT, BUT IT'S AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGEMENT
AH, HERE'S THE BUGLE! I ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY ONE ONE OF THESE THINGS
I'LL PUT THIS T-SHIRT IN THE BUGLE SO IT WILL BLOW SOFTLY.
PUFF! PUFF! WHEW! IT TAKES MORE WIND THAN I THOUGHT!
TA-TA-TA
OH, MY GOSH! OF ALL THE FOOL TRICKS! KATE'S BLOWING THE BUGLE! I HOPE NOBODY HEARS HER!
IT'S THE BUGLER HE HEARD IT! NOW WE'RE SUNK!
SOMEONE'S FOOLING AROUND WITH MY BUGLE!
NO! WAIT! THAT WAS JUST ME FOOLING AROUND WITH MY WHISTLE!
MAYBE! BUT I'M GOING INSIDE AND MAKE SURE!

WELL, I'LL BE! THERE'S NOBODY IN HERE.
YOU SOUND AS IF YOU EXPECTED TO SEE SOMEBODY.
NO, OF COURSE NOT. I TOLD YOU NOBODY WOULD TOUCH YOUR BUGLE.
THEY WOULDN'T, HUH! WELL HOW COME IT'S GONE?
I'LL REPORT IT TO MAJOR HERRINGBONE! HE'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS! THE SOMEBODY'S NAME WILL BE MUD!
KATE! KATE! COME OUT! WHERE ARE YOU?
IN YOUR BARRACKS BAG AND I'VE GOT THE BUGLE, TOO!
WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE MAJOR HERRINGBONE COMES. DUCK DOWN IN THAT BAG AGAIN!
OH, YOU'RE GOING TO SMUGGLE ME OUT! WELL, DON'T BE ROUGH!
THE TREATMENT YOU GET WILL BE A LOT ROUGHER IF HERRINGBONE GETS HOLD OF YOU, BABE!


HOLY SMOKES! IT'S THE MAJOR! DON'T MOVE A MUSCLE, KATE!
I COULDN'T IF I WANTED TO.

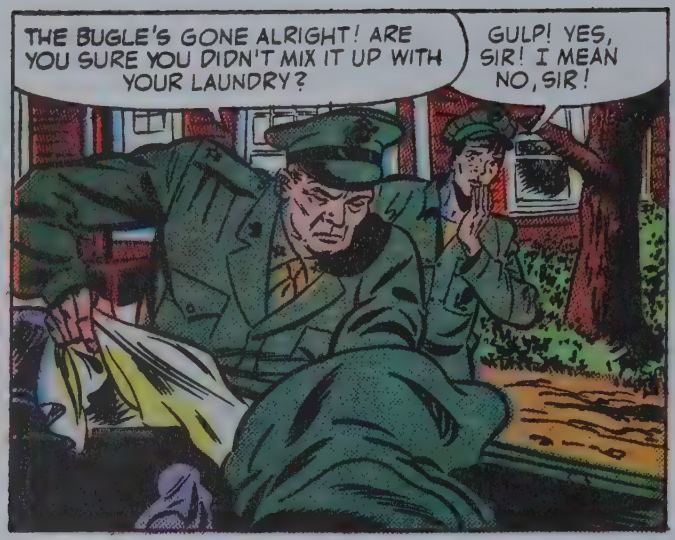

WHAT HAVE YOU IN THE BARRACKS BAG, PRIVATE?
WHY, ER--NOTHING, SIR! THAT IS, NOTHING BUT SOME DIRTY CLOTHES I WAS TAKING TO THE LAUNDRY.

WELL, THROW IT IN THE BACK OF MY JEEP. I'M DRIVING PAST THE LAUNDRY, I'LL GIVE YOU A LIFT BUT FIRST COME INTO THE BARRACKS AND HELP US LOOK FOR A BUGLE THAT'S BEEN LOST.
ER, YES SIR THANK YOU, SIR

OUCH!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I SAID, 'THAT'S A NICE TOBACCO POUCH!'

I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE WHILE THE GETTING IS GOOD BUT WHAT TO DO WITH THIS BUGLE?

GOOD GRIEF. THEY'RE COMING OUT ALREADY! I'LL JUST TOSS IT UNDER THE SEAT.


THE BUGLE'S GONE ALRIGHT! ARE YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T MIX IT UP WITH YOUR LAUNDRY?
GULP! YES, SIR! I MEAN NO, SIR!

HUMPH! YOU'RE RIGHT! BUT THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY ABOUT THIS AND I INTEND TO FIND OUT WHAT IT IS! WE'LL FIND THAT BUGLE IF WE HAVE TO LOOK ALL NIGHT!

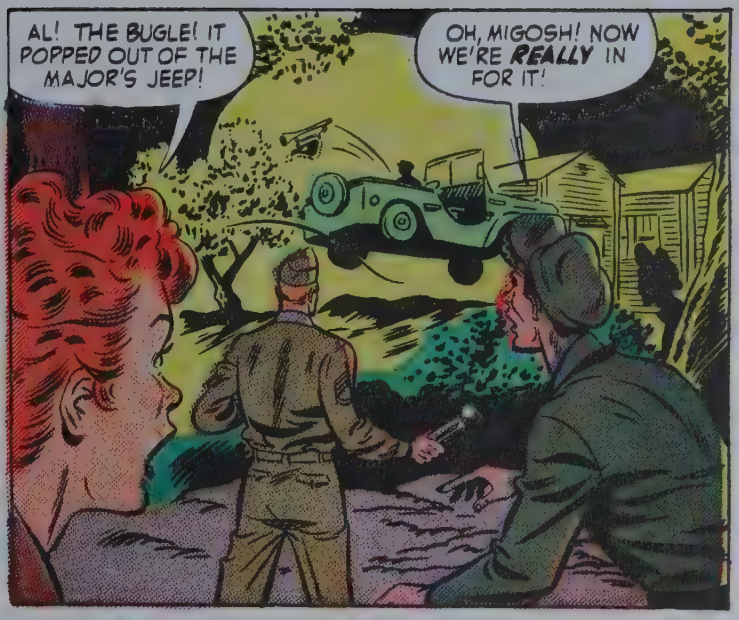
OH, THERE YOU ARE! YOU SURE FIXED THINGS. QUICK, GET THE BUGLE AND SNEAK IT BACK INTO THE BARRACKS.
I CAN'T AL! IT'S IN THE MAJOR'S JEEP!

IN THE MAJOR'S JEEP! WHY DID YOU PUT IT THERE OF ALL PLACES?
I DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO HIDE IT ANYWHERE ELSE.

THAT NIGHT...
I DON'T CARE HOW TIRED EVERYBODY IS, SERGEANT! NOBODY SLEEPS TILL WE FIND THAT BUGLE.

YOU AND YOUR HAIR-BRAINED SCHEMES. NOW I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO HIT THE SACK.
AT LEAST YOU'VE GO LOTS OF COMPANY!

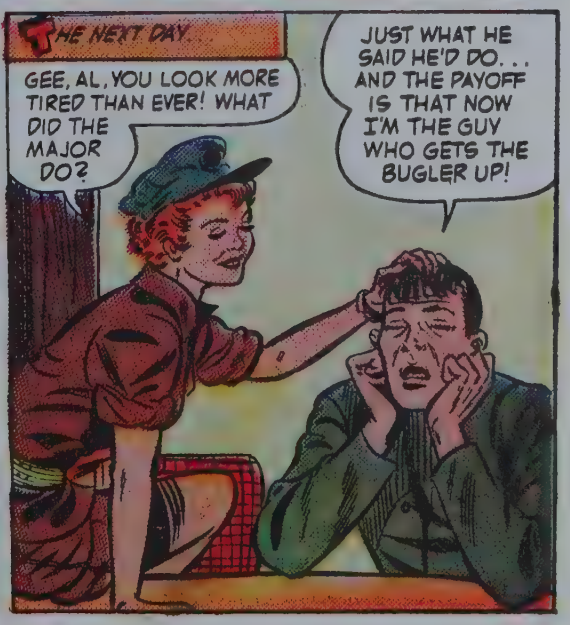
REPORT TO ME AS SOON AS YOU LAY YOUR HANDS ON THAT CONFOUNDED INSTRUMENT!
YES, SIR!

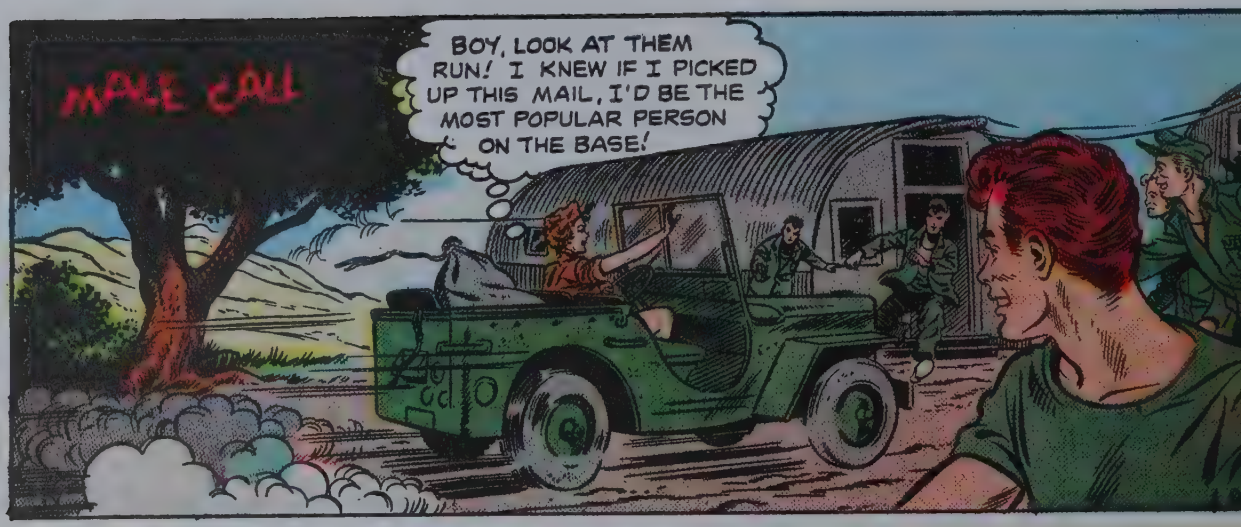

AL! THE BUGLE! IT POPPED OUT OF THE MAJOR'S JEEP!
OH, MIGOSH! NOW WE'RE REALLY IN FOR IT!

WHOSE T-SHIRT IS THIS STUFFED IN THE HORN?
I DON'T KNOW, SIR! IT'S NOT MINE!

PRIVATE AL BROWN! YOUR NAME'S STENCILLED ON THIS! WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?
W-WHY, SOMEHOW, SIR, I'M SORTA LOST FOR WORDS!
AL BROWN
USMC

IT WASN'T REALLY AL'S FAULT, MAJOR! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BE TOO HARD ON HIM, ARE YOU?
I'M AN HONEST AND JUST MAN, YOUNG LADY! THE PUNISHMENT WILL FIT THE CRIME!


THE NEXT DAY...
GEE, AL, YOU LOOK MORE TIRED THAN EVER! WHAT DID THE MAJOR DO?
JUST WHAT HE SAID HE'D DO... AND THE PAYOFF IS THAT NOW I'M THE GUY WHO GETS THE BUGLER UP!


MALE CALL
BOY, LOOK AT THEM RUN! I KNEW IF I PICKED UP THIS MAIL, I'D BE THE MOST POPULAR PERSON ON THE BASE!

KATE! HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A LONG TIME!
US MAIL

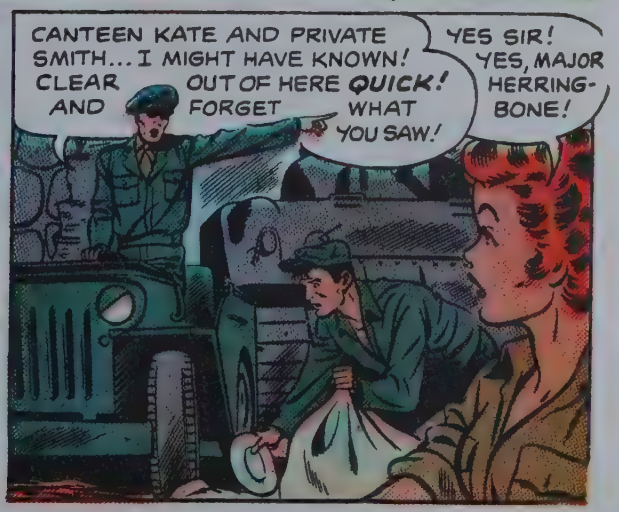
HONEY DOLL... THIS IS JIM!

THAT'S MY GIRL!

YOU'RE A DREAM, SUGAR!

POPULARITY BAH! NEX
TIME I'LL BE SATIS-
FIED WITH ONE
MAN FOR TWO
HOURS IN-
STEAD OF
A TWENTY MA
STAMPEDE FO
TWO MINUTES

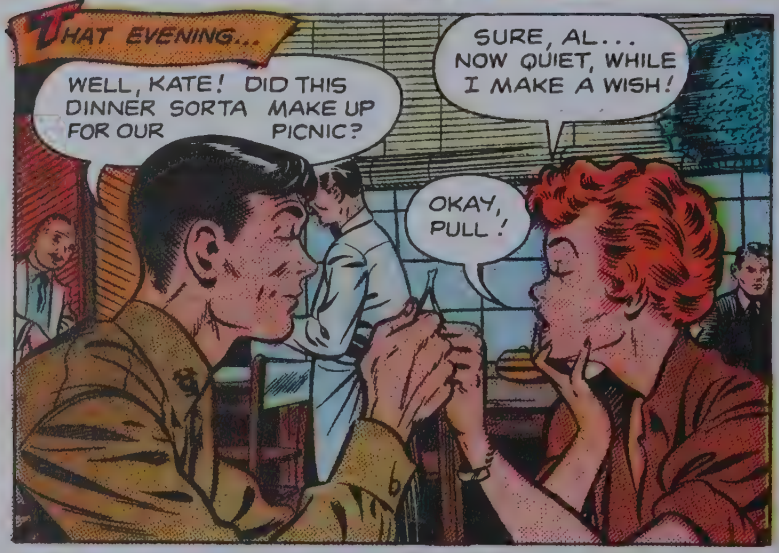
Canteen Kate in "TANKS FOR THE MEMORIES"


CANTEEN KATE AND PRIVATE SMITH... I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN! CLEAR OUT OF HERE QUICK! AND FORGET WHAT YOU SAW!
YES SIR! YES, MAJOR HERRING-BONE!

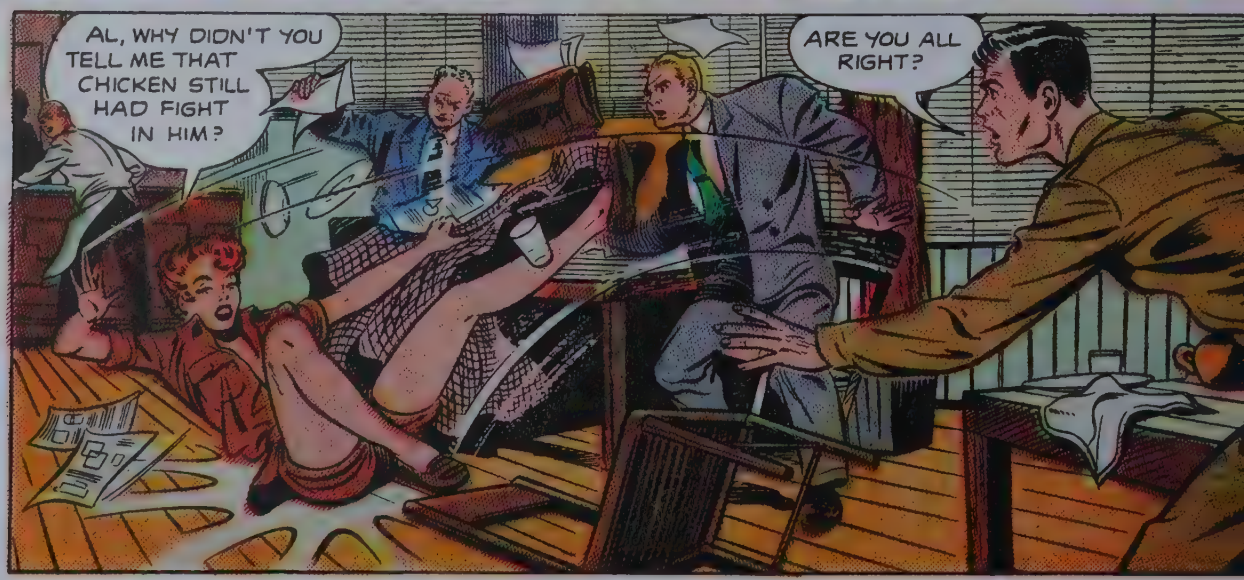
WHY DID MAJOR HERRINGBONE WANT US TO FORGET ABOUT THE TANK? IT'S PRETTY BIG TO FORGET!
IT'S THE NEW SECRET TANK! IF THE MAJOR HADN'T KNOWN US, WE'D BE IN TROUBLE!

OOPS!!
OH-OH! I SPOKE TOO SOON!

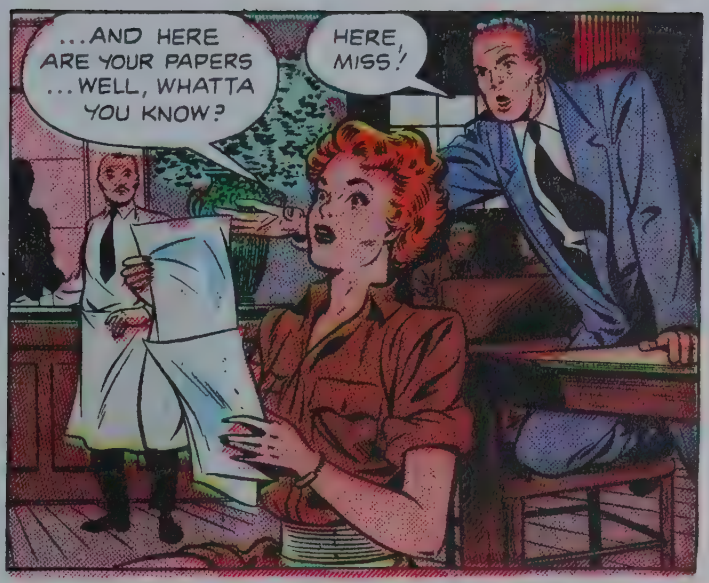
AL! HELP ME!
YOU MAKE THE CRAZIES REQUESTS A THE MOST IMPOSSIBL TIMES!

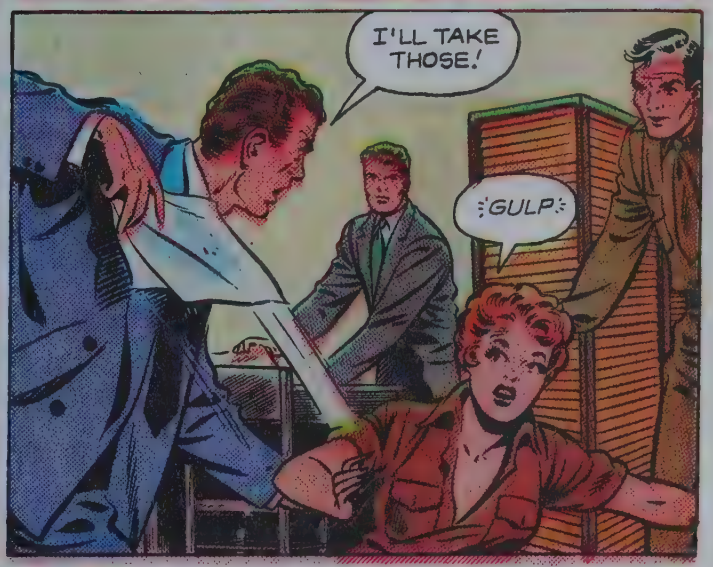

THAT EVENING...
WELL, KATE! DID THIS DINNER SORTA MAKE UP FOR OUR PICNIC?
SURE, AL... NOW QUIET, WHILE I MAKE A WISH!
OKAY, PULL!

HEY, KATE! COME BACK HERE!
THAT DAME! WHOEVER HEARD OF FALLING HEAD OVER HEELS FOR A WISHBONE!


AL, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THAT CHICKEN STILL HAD FIGHT IN HIM?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

I'M SORRY I PULLED EVERYTHING OFF YOUR TABLE, MISTER! I'LL PICK IT UP!


...AND HERE ARE YOUR PAPERS ...WELL, WHATTA YOU KNOW?
HERE, MISS!

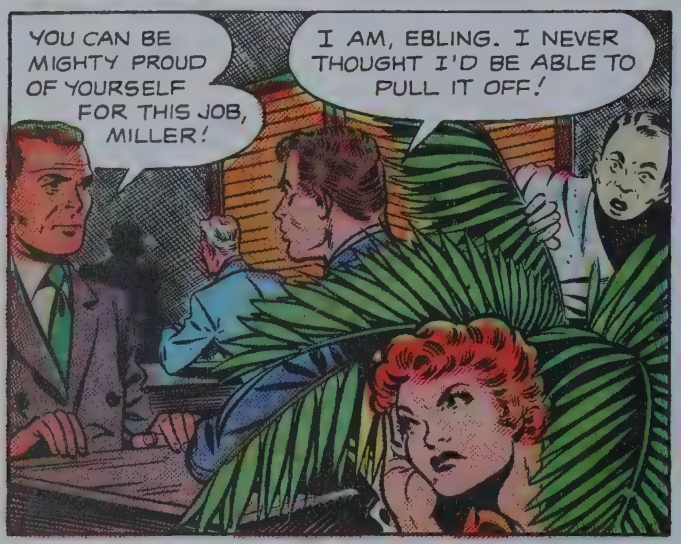

I'LL TAKE THOSE!
:GULP:

AL, YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THOSE PAPERS! KNOW WHAT THEY WERE... PLANS FOR A NEW TANK! THEY'RE PROBABLY SPIES OR SOMETHIN'!
WHAT WOULD SPIES BE DOING IN HERE?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT I'M GOING TO FIND OUT!

FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, KATE! STOP BEING SO OBVIOUS! COME BACK HERE!
SH-H!

THESE ARE THE PLANS FOR THE NEW TANK! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THEM?
THEY SHOULD BE WORTH A FORTUNE!


YOU CAN BE MIGHTY PROUD OF YOURSELF FOR THIS JOB, MILLER!
I AM, EBLING. I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE ABLE TO PULL IT OFF!

DID YOU LOSE SOMETHING, MISS?
ER, NO! I WAS JUST ADMIRIN YOUR POTTED PALM!

I MUST ASK YOU TO COME WITH ME, MISS.
SHE MUST HAVE BEEN EAVESDROPPING!
BUT I HAVEN'T FINISHED ADMIRING IT!
WHAT THE--

I THINK GIRL TRYING TO MAKE OFF WITH POTTED PALM, MISSY!
LEAVE!
NO! NO! HONEST!

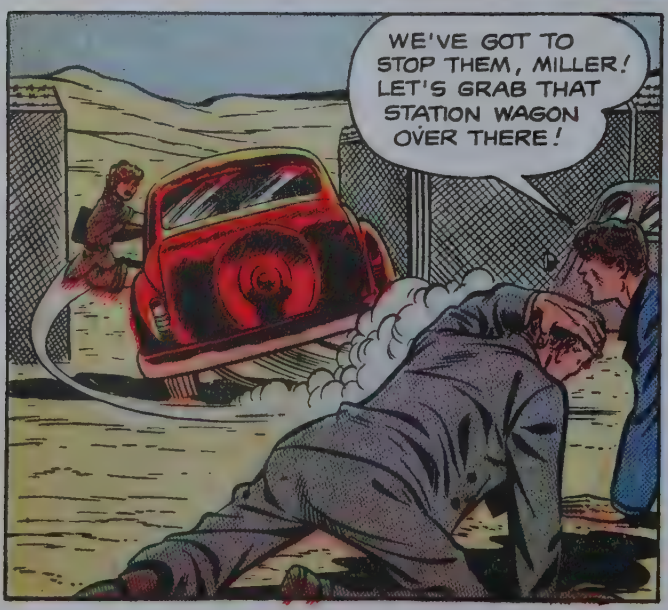
WELL, I HOPE YOU'RE SATISFIED NOW THAT YOU GOT US THROWN OUT OF THERE!
BUT, AL, THOSE TWO MEN DID HAVE PLANS FOR THE NEW TANK! I HEARD THEM TALKING ABOUT IT!
KATE! ARE YOU ABSOLUTELY SURE? SOMETIMES YOU GET THINGS TWISTED, YOU KNOW.
WELL, THERE'S SOMETHING TWISTED ABOUT THIS, BUT IT'S NOT ME! LOOK! THEY'RE LEAVING! WE BETTER FOLLOW THEM AND GET THOSE PLANS!
NOW BE READY TO RUN! WE'LL HANG ON TO THE BACK OF THEIR CAR!
WHY DON'T WE JUST TAKE THEIR LICENSE NUMBER AND PHONE FOR HELP!
WE CAN'T TAKE THE CHANCE OF LETTING THEM GET AWAY! C'MON, THEY'RE STARTING!
AND I USED TO THINK A JEEP WAS UNCOMFORTABLE!
THE GENERAL WILL PROBABLY GIVE YOU A MEDAL FOR THIS, AL!
YEAH, I CAN JUST SEE IT... A BIG PURPLE HEART!

THEY'VE STOPPED! WHEN THEY STEP OUT, YOU TACKLE THEM AND I'LL GRAB THE PLANS!
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A BIG ORDER FOR A SKINNY RUNT LIKE ME?
YOU'RE A MARINE, AREN'T YOU? BESIDES, I'LL BE CONFUSING THEM SO THEY'LL THINK A WHOLE SQUADRON IS HERE!

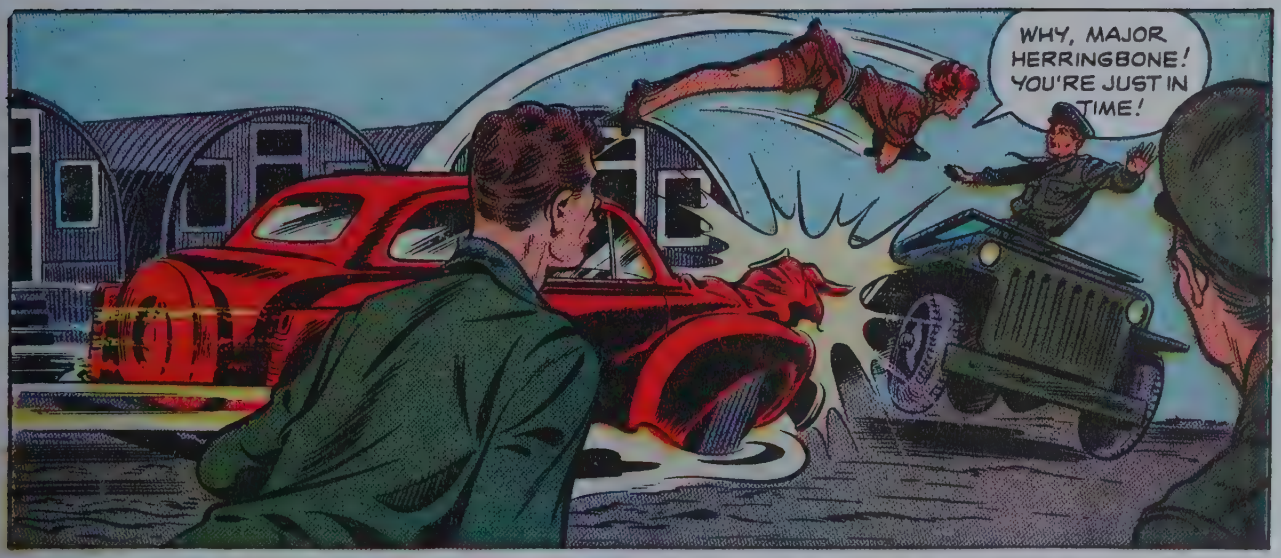
READY, MEN! ATTACK! BRING UP THE RESERVES! MOW 'EM DOWN!

EBLING! IT'S THAT WILD GIRL FROM THE RESTAURANT! SHE'S STEALING THE PLANS!
HURRY, KATE! LET'S GET OUTA HERE!

HURRY, KATE! I'VE GOT IT STARTED! JUMP ON THE RUNNING BOARD!

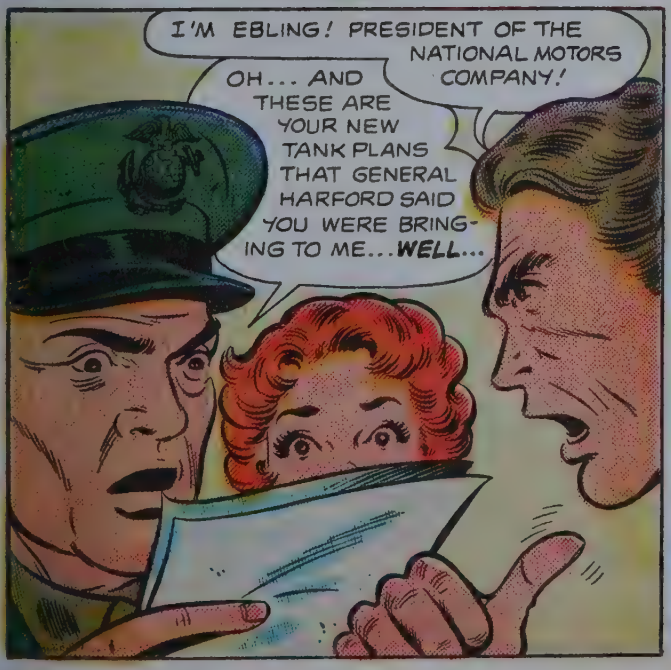

WE'VE GOT TO STOP THEM, MILLER! LET'S GRAB THAT STATION WAGON OVER THERE!

FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER, AL AND KATE ROAR INTO THE MARINE BASE WITH EBLING AND MILLER IN CLOSE PURSUIT...
BE CAREFUL, AL! THAT JEEP!


WHY, MAJOR HERRINGBONE! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME!

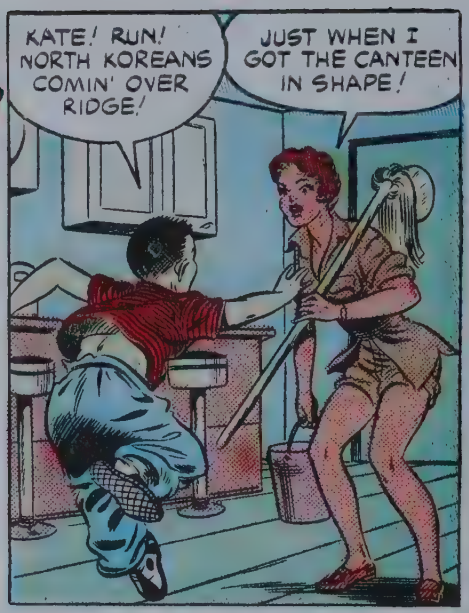
SEIZE THOSE MEN! THEY STOLE THE PLANS FOR THE NEW TANK. HERE THEY ARE!
THEY DID? LET ME LOOK AT THEM?

SHE'S CRAZY, MAJOR! FIRST SHE EAVESDROPS... THEN THEY ATTACK US... THEN THEY STEAL OUR TANK PLANS... THEN THEY WRECK OUR CAR!
AND WHO ARE YOU?


I'M EBLING! PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL MOTORS COMPANY!
OH... AND THESE ARE YOUR NEW TANK PLANS THAT GENERAL HARFORD SAID YOU WERE BRINGING TO ME... WELL...

EXCUSE ME, MR. EBLING! BEFORE GOING INTO THE TANKS, THERE'S ANOTHER LITTLE BUSINESS I MUST ATTEND TO!
I-I THINK HE MEANS US, AL!
MP

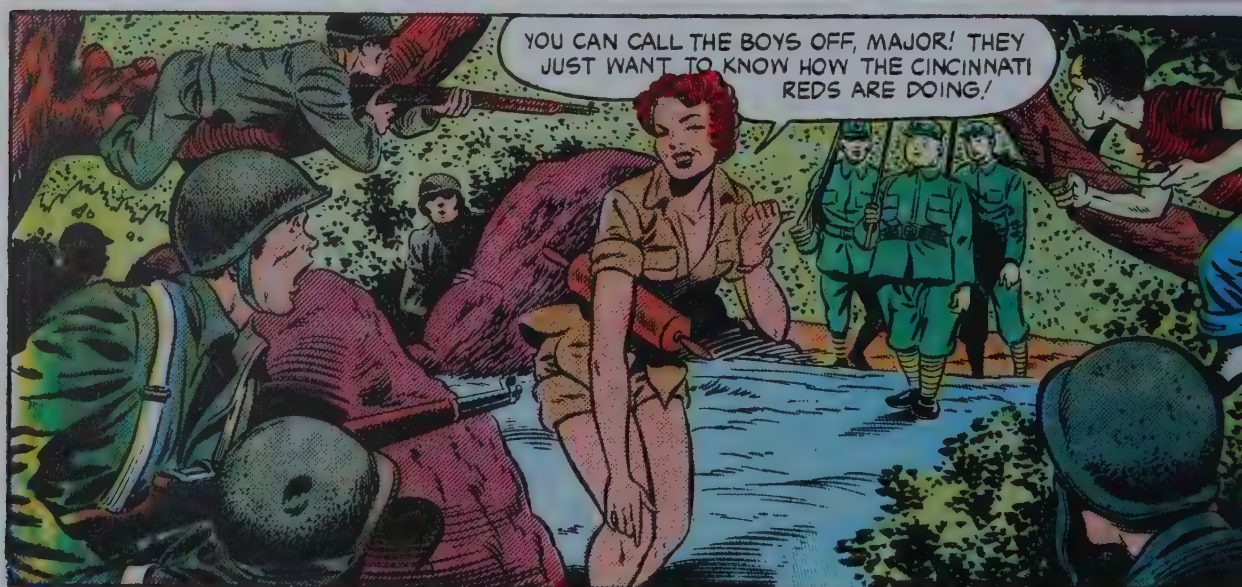
CANTEEN
KATE


KATE! RUN! NORTH KOREANS COMIN' OVER RIDGE!
JUST WHEN I GOT THE CANTEEN IN SHAPE!

WELL THEY'RE NOT TAKING THIS TERRITORY! YOU TELL THE C.O. WHILE I STALL THEM OFF!

THERE THEY ARE! HMMM--ONLY THREE OF THEM!

A FEW MINUTES LATER . . .
OKAY, MEN! CREEP UP! AMBUSH THEM!


YOU CAN CALL THE BOYS OFF, MAJOR! THEY JUST WANT TO KNOW HOW THE CINCINNATI REDS ARE DOING!

Canteen Kate in "Calamity Cake"

THE MESS SERGEANT WILL MURDER ME WHEN HE FINDS OUT! HE SPENT HOURS MAKING THAT CAKE FOR THE PARTY TONIGHT.
BUT THE MESS SERGEANT NEED NEVER FIND OUT, AL!

NOT FIND OUT? HOW CAN HE HELP IT? LOOK!
I CAN BAKE A CAKE JUST LIKE IT... AND YOU CAN DELIVER IT TO THE MAJOR'S HOUSE AND THE MESS SERGEANT WILL NEVER KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.

YOU RUN INSIDE AND CLEAN UP. THE CAKE WILL BE READY IN TWO HOURS.
YOU'RE WONDERFUL, KATE!

AL! IT'S THE MESS SERGEANT! HE'S COMING HERE!
HOLY SMOKES! HE MUSTN'T SEE ME!

WHERE CAN I HIDE? WHERE CAN I HIDE?
LET'S SEE! BEHIND THE COUNTER? NO... TOO OBVIOUS! I KNOW...

IN THE WASHING MACHINE! IT'LL BE A TIGHT SQUEEZE, BUT YOU CAN MAKE IT!
ANY PORT IN A STORM!

BUT, KATE, IT'S FULL OF WATER!
OH, I FORGOT I FILLED IT! I WAS GOING TO WASH MY CLOTHES! BUT THERE'S NO TIME TO BACK OUT NOW! GET IN-- HURRY!

JUST KEEP YOUR HEAD ABOVE WATER, AL. I'LL LET YOU OUT AS SOON AS I GET RID OF THE SERGEANT!
MAKE IT SNAPP I FEEL LIKE A LEAKY SUB MARINE!

HELLO, KATE. THINGS ARE A LITTLE SLACK OVER AT THE MESS HALL. I THOUGHT I'D PAY YOU A VISIT.
W-WHY, HELLO, SERGEANT.

WHATCHA DOING WITH THE WASHER?
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO WASH MY CLOTHES WHEN YOU CAME IN.

HERE, I'LL TURN IT ON FOR YOU, KATE!
NO!! DON'T DO THAT! I MEAN, THERE'S NO HURRY! I HAVE ALL DAY... ER... I'D RATHER JUST TALK TO YOU ANYWAY!
CLICK!

THAT'S NICE OF YOU TO SAY, KATE. BUT WE CAN TALK AND DO YOUR WASH AT THE SAME TIME!
CLICK

HMM... IT SOUNDS A LITTLE SLUGGISH! I'D BETTER HAVE A LOOK AT IT!
IT S-S-SOUNDS FINE TO ME! PLEASE DON'T GO TO ANY TROUBLE!
CLICK!

NO TROUBLE AT ALL! PROBABLY SOMETHING SIMPLE... I'LL FIX IT IN A JIFFY!
R-RRING!!
WAIT! THE PHONE!

IT'S FOR YOU, SERGEANT. THE MESS HALL CALLING!
THE MAJOR JUST PHONED, SERGEANT. HE HASN'T RECEIVED THE CAKE YET.
THAT'S FUNNY. AL LEFT WITH IT A HALF-HOUR AGO.
WE'LL HAVE TO POSTPONE OUR TALK, KATE. I HAVE TO FIND THAT LAME-BRAIN AL. HE'S PROBABLY LOITERING AROUND SOMEWHERE!
YOU CAN COME OUT NOW, AL! AL!! WHERE ARE YOU?
I FEEL SEA-SICK!
WELL, AT LEAST YOU'RE CLEAN! NOW I'LL BAKE THE CAKE. OH, SHUCKS! I'M LOW ON POWDERED SUGAR FOR THE ICING!
AL! RUSH DOWN TO THE SUPPLY ROOM AND GET ME A CAN!
I'LL GO, BUT IN MY CONDITIO I'LL STAGGER

HIYA, AL! HEY-- YOU LOOK AS IF YOU'VE BEEN IN SWIMMING WITH YOUR CLOTHES ON!
PLEASE DON'T REMIND ME! I FEEL BAD ENOUGH! I WANT A CAN OF POWDERED SUGAR FOR KATE!
XXX
O.K. -- HERE! AND WOULD YOU MIND DROPPING THIS OTHER CAN OFF AT THE ENGINEERS' BARRACKS?
SURE.
USMC
SUPPLY "2
SAILING...SAILING OVER THE BOUND. ING MAIN...
HERE I AM, SUGAR!
FINE! POUR IT INTO THAT BIG BOWL!
NOW I HAVE TO DELIVER THIS OTHER CAN TO THE ENGINEERS. I'LL BE BACK TO PICK UP THE CAKE.
DON'T GET LOST. IT'LL BE READY IN AN HOUR!
POWDERED SUGAR XXX
I'LL GIVE MAJOR HERRINGBONE AN ICING HE'LL NEVER FORGET!

AND AN HOUR LATER...
KATE, I'M PROUD OF YOU! IT'S THE EXACT IMAGE OF THE MESS SERGEANT'S CAKE!
IT SHOULD BE GOOD, TOO!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SO THERE YOU ARE! I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU! GIVE ME THAT CAKE-- I'LL DELIVER IT MYSELF!

GOSH, HE SURE WAS SORE! BUT THINK HOW SORE HE'D BE IF HE KNEW I'D RUINED HIS CAKE!
WHAT HE DOESN'T KNOW CAN'T HURT YOU!

HEY, AL-- YOU TURNING INTO A PRACTICAL JOKER? THAT CAN YOU LEFT AT OUR BARRACKS WAS POWDERED SUGAR. WE CAN'T BLAST STUMPS WITH THAT!
POWDERED SUGAR!

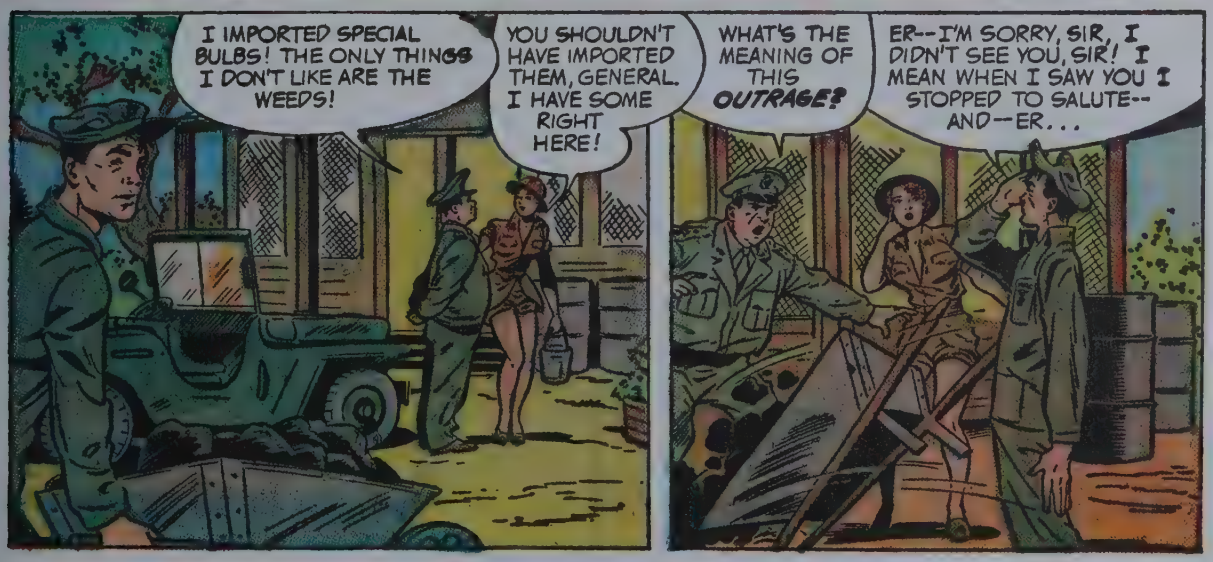
BACK IN KATE'S KITCHEN...
AL! YOU MUST HAVE POURED GUNPOWDER INTO THE MIXING BOWL! AND I ICED THE CAKE WITH IT!
QUICK! W HAVE TO GET TOT MAJOR' HOUSE
...BEFORE HE LIGHTS THOSE CANDLES!

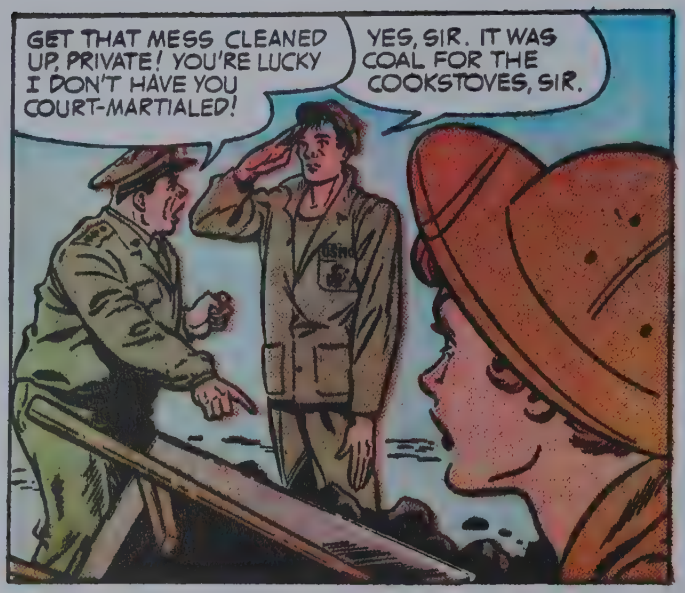
HE MUST HAVE LIT THE CANDLES!
BOOM!
BOOM!

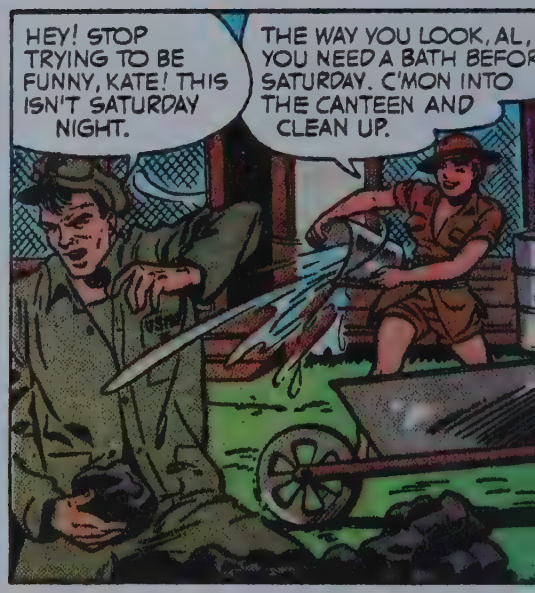
DO YOU THINK HE'D FORGIVE US IF WE SANG HAPPY BIRTHDAY VERY LOUD!

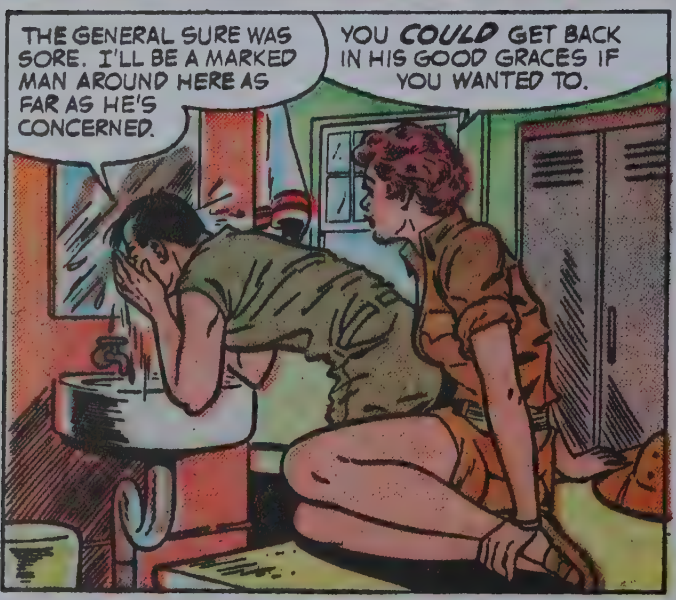
Canteen Kate

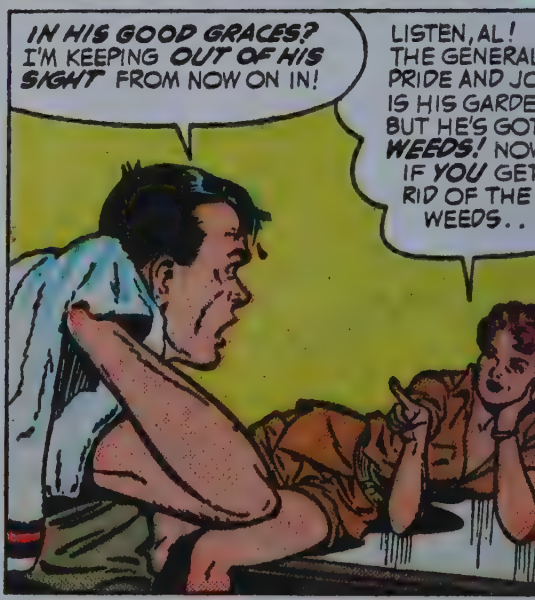
in "READY... AIM ... FIRE!"


I IMPORTED SPECIAL BULBS! THE ONLY THINGS I DON'T LIKE ARE THE WEEDS!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE IMPORTED THEM, GENERAL. I HAVE SOME RIGHT HERE!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS *OUTRAGE?*
ER--I'M SORRY, SIR, I DIDN'T SEE YOU, SIR! I MEAN WHEN I SAW YOU I STOPPED TO SALUTE-- AND--ER...


GET THAT MESS CLEANED UP, PRIVATE! YOU'RE LUCKY I DON'T HAVE YOU COURT-MARTIALED!
YES, SIR. IT WAS COAL FOR THE COOKSTOVES, SIR.


HEY! STOP TRYING TO BE FUNNY, KATE! THIS ISN'T SATURDAY NIGHT.
THE WAY YOU LOOK, AL, YOU NEED A BATH BEFOR SATURDAY. C'MON INTO THE CANTEEN AND CLEAN UP.

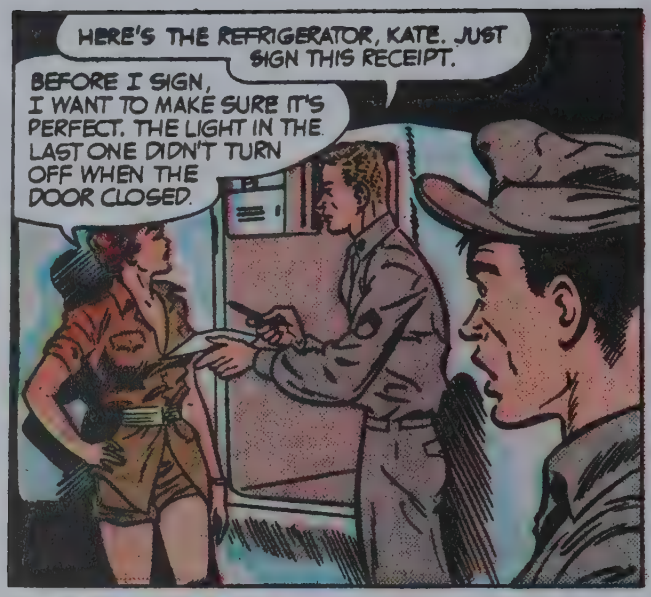

THE GENERAL SURE WAS SORE. I'LL BE A MARKED MAN AROUND HERE AS FAR AS HE'S CONCERNED.
YOU COULD GET BACK IN HIS GOOD GRACES IF YOU WANTED TO.


IN HIS GOOD GRACES? I'M KEEPING OUT OF HIS SIGHT FROM NOW ON IN!
LISTEN, AL! THE GENERAL PRIDE AND JO IS HIS GARDE BUT HE'S GOT WEEDS! NOW IF YOU GET RID OF THE WEEDS..

WEEDS? I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT WEEDS!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO! THAT'S WHERE I COME IN!

SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, BUT THE ANSWER IS NO!
BUT, AL, I KNOW WH I CAN LAY MY HAND ON A WEED-KILLER I SAW IT AT THE SUPPLY DEPOT!

A WEED KILLER, EH? WELL THE MESS SERGEANT WILL WEED-KILL ME IF I DON'T GET THERE WITH THIS COAL FOR HIS STOVES.
YOU MEAN YOU'RE ON KP AGAIN? WHY DON'T YOU TELL THEM YOU DON'T LIKE IT?
THAT'S JUST WHAT I'LL DO, KATE... THE NEXT TIME I HAVE TEA WITH THE GENERAL.
I'LL BET IF YOU GOT RID OF THE GENERAL'S WEEDS YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ANY MORE KP DUTY.
HMM. MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, KATE. LET'S GO AND FIND OUT IF THE WEED-KILLER REALLY KILLS WEEDS.
I NEED A JEEP, LIEUTENANT, TO PICK UP THE NEW REFRIGERATOR AT THE SUPPLY DEPOT FOR MY NEW CANTEEN.
HMM-ALL RIGHT, THIS REQUISITION IS IN ORDER. I'LL GET THE KEYS!
I THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO PICK UP A WEED-KILLER.
WE ARE, SILLY. BUT YOU KNOW NAVY RED TAPE. IF WE PUT IN A REQUISITION FOR WEED-KILLER IT WOULD TAKE WEEKS...
I REQUESTED THE REFRIGERATOR TWO MONTHS AGO AND THEY JUST TOLD ME TODAY THAT I COULD PICK IT UP.
WELL, THEN HOW DO WE GET THE WEED-KILLER?
YOU'LL SEE!
YIPE! A BLACK CAT! I HAVE A FEELING THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE MY LUCKY NIGHT!


HERE'S THE REFRIGERATOR, KATE. JUST SIGN THIS RECEIPT.
BEFORE I SIGN, I WANT TO MAKE SURE IT'S PERFECT. THE LIGHT IN THE LAST ONE DIDN'T TURN OFF WHEN THE DOOR CLOSED.

YOU GET INSIDE, AND I'LL CLOSE THE DOOR. THEN YOU CAN TELL ME IF THE LIGHT GOES OUT.
W-WELL. I WOULDN'T DO THIS FOR ANYBODY ELSE. BUT OK.

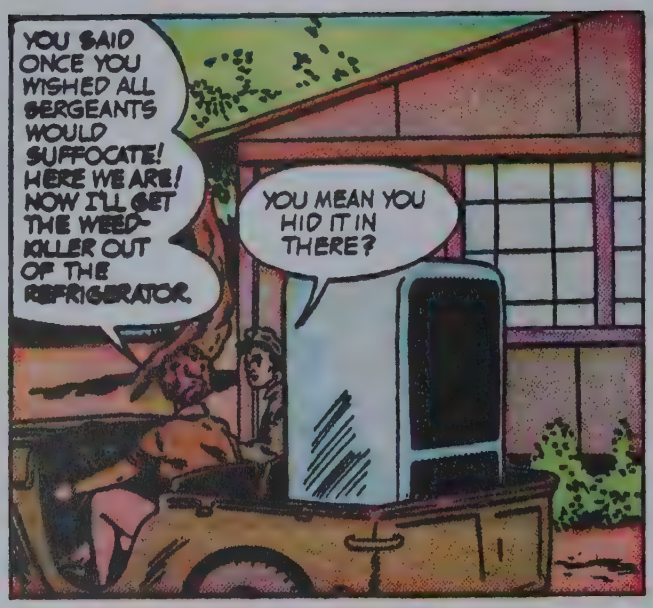
OK! LIGHTS OUT! NOW LET ME OUT!
ER—THE HANDLE SEEMS TO BE STUCK, SERGEANT!

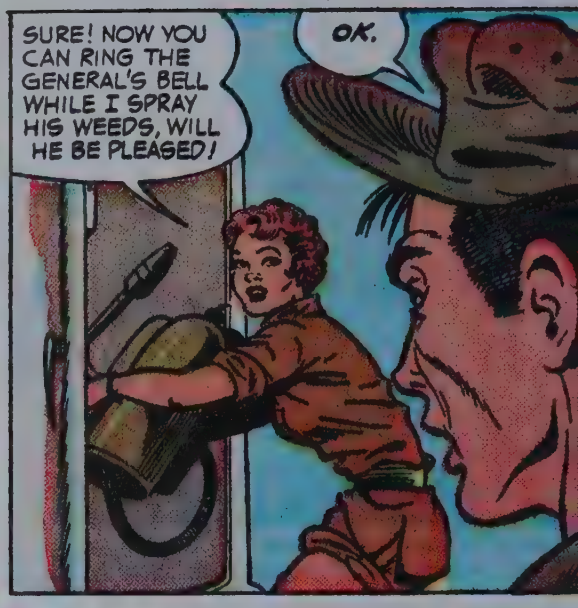
LET ME OUT!
YOU HAVEN'T EVEN TRIED THE HANDLE, HOW DO YOU KNOW IT'S STUCK.
SHUSH, AL! Y
JUST KEEP HI
IN THERE TIL
GET THE
WEED-
KILLER!

THE WEED-KILLER! LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE THE KIND POP USED BACK ON THE FARM.
ORDINANC
SUPPLIES

HOLY MACKERAL, HOW AM I GOING TO GET THAT WEED-KILLER OUT TO THE JEE
WITHOUT THE SERGEA
SEEING IT?

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE ANYWAY? THIS HANDLE DOESN'T STICK AT ALL!
YOU KNOW HOW THOSE THINGS ARE, SERGEANT. STUCK ONE MINUTE, UNSTUCK THE NEXT.
YOU BETTER SIGN THIS RECEIPT AND CLEAR OUT OF HERE BEFORE I BLOW MY TOP.
RIGHT, SERGEANT.
ER--WOULD YOU GIVE ME A HAND WITH THIS, SERGEANT. THE JEEP'S RIGHT OUTSIDE.
ANYTHING TO GET RID OF YOU TWO!
YOU'RE A GOOD GUY, AL! SORRY I WAS SO NASTY! LET'S TRY THE HANDLE ONCE MORE AND MAKE SURE THE DOOR OPENS.
GOOD IDEA, SERGEANT.
THERE'S NOT TIME, SERGEANT. I HAVE TO GET THIS BACK TO THE CANTEEN BEFORE MY FOOD SPOILS.
I SHOULDN'T PICK YOU UP. WHY DID YOU LET HIM OUT BEFORE I GOT THE WEED-KILLER OUT TO THE JEEP?
HE KEPT YELLING HE WAS SUFFOCATING!


YOU SAID ONCE YOU WISHED ALL SERGEANTS WOULD SUFFOCATE! HERE WE ARE! NOW I'LL GET THE WEED-KILLER OUT OF THE REFRIGERATOR.
YOU MEAN YOU HID IT IN THERE?


SURE! NOW YOU CAN RING THE GENERAL'S BELL WHILE I SPRAY HIS WEEDS, WILL HE BE PLEASED!
OK.

I GUESS I JUST PRESS THIS THING AND—

WHOOSH!
SIZZLE!
CRACKLE!

QUICK! TURN IT OFF! THAT'S NOT A WEED KILLER -- THAT'S A FLAME-THROWER!
B-BUT IT'S OUT OF CONTROL

MY FLOWERS! MY GARDEN! RUINED! RUINED! YOU, AGAIN! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS!
ER--ER-- YES, SIR.

THE NEXT DAY. . .
EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT, AL! I JUST PUT IN A REQUISITION TO THE MAJOR TO LET YOU OUT OF HERE.
YOU AND YOUR REQUISITIONS! IF IT TOOK TWO MONTHS FOR YOU TO GET YOU REFRIGERATOR -- I'LL PROBABLY STAY HERE TWO YEARS!

Canteen Kate in Rugged Rug-Cutters

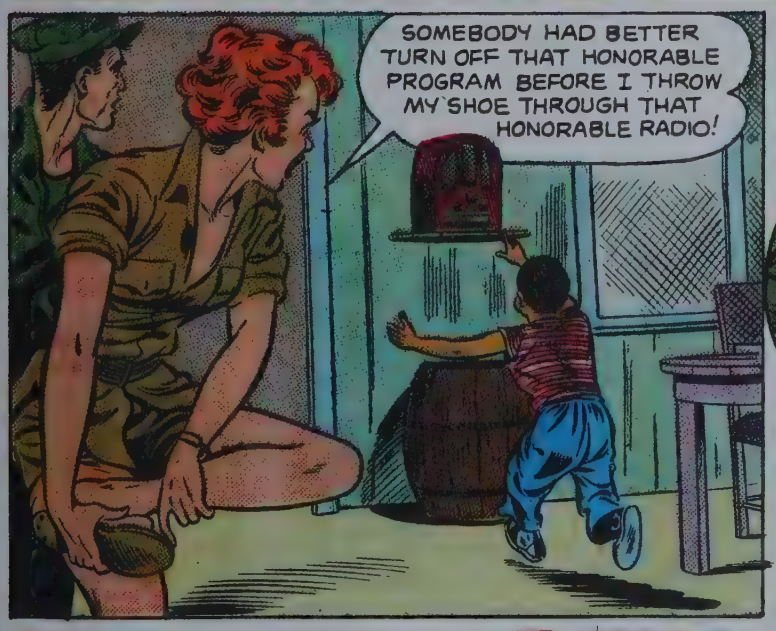
THIS IS HOW I'M GONNA SPEND MY NIGHTS STATESIDE... CUTTING A RUG WITH MABEL!
HOW ABOUT A REAL LIFE SUBSTITUTE FOR THE BROOM, JOHNNY?

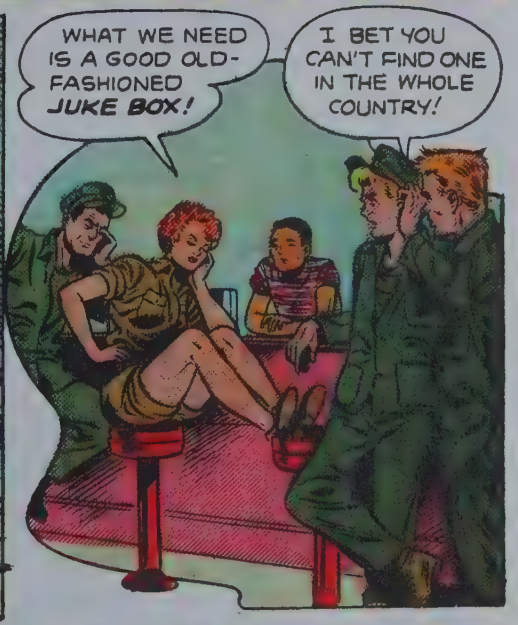
I'LL GLADLY WARBLE FOR YOU ALL! AN' ARKANSAS HAS A MOUTH ORGAN! HOW 'BOUT IT?
I'LL TRY ANYTHING ONCE... AS LONG AS I DON'T HAVE TO GET OFF MY FEET!

LET'S GO, JOHNNY!
WE'LL SET THE BEAT--YOU GUYS PICK IT UP!
OH BURY ME NOT ON THE LONE PRAIRIE-EE WHERE THE COYOTES HOWL...WOO-OO-OO!
DO YOU CALL THAT MUSIC?
HONEY, YOU'RE NOT AT THE ASTOR!
THAT'S THE TROUBLE BEING STUCK OUT HERE IN JAPAN! WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE TO HEAR SOME GOOD OLD AMERICAN JIVE!
PARDON ME, MISSY KATE! YOU WANT REAL 100% AMERICAN JIVE, FIRST RATE, I FIX!
WHAT'S THE PITCH, SMALL CHANGE?
PLEASE LISTEN TO TOKYO RADIO! GENUINE IMITATION OF AMERICAN JIVE! NOBOD TELL DIFFERENCE!

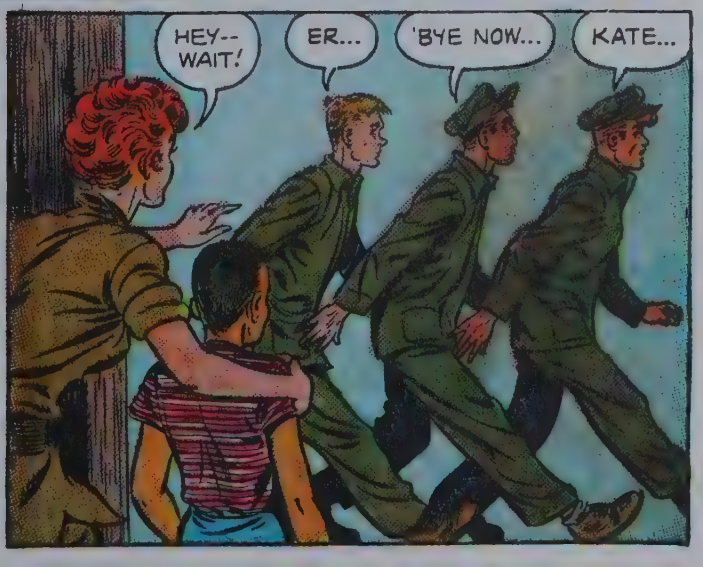
WE BRING YOU MATSUOKE FUJIOKE AND HIS HONORABLE HOT LIPS--
100% GOOD STUFF!

BLACKEE BOTTOM...

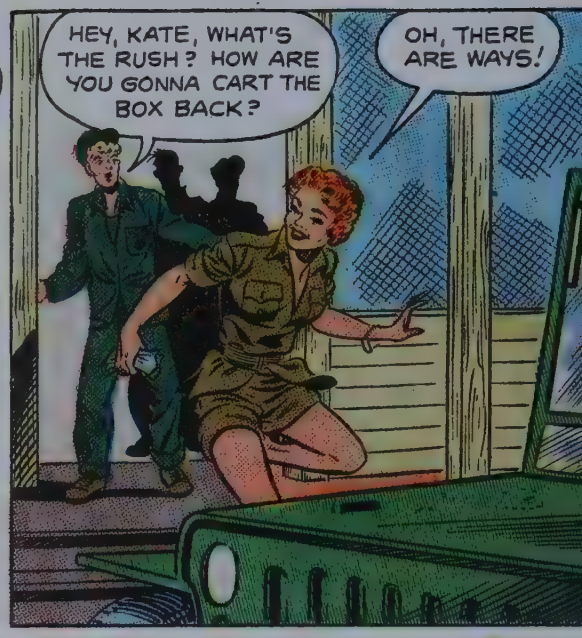

SOMEBODY HAD BETTER TURN OFF THAT HONORABLE PROGRAM BEFORE I THROW MY SHOE THROUGH THAT HONORABLE RADIO!

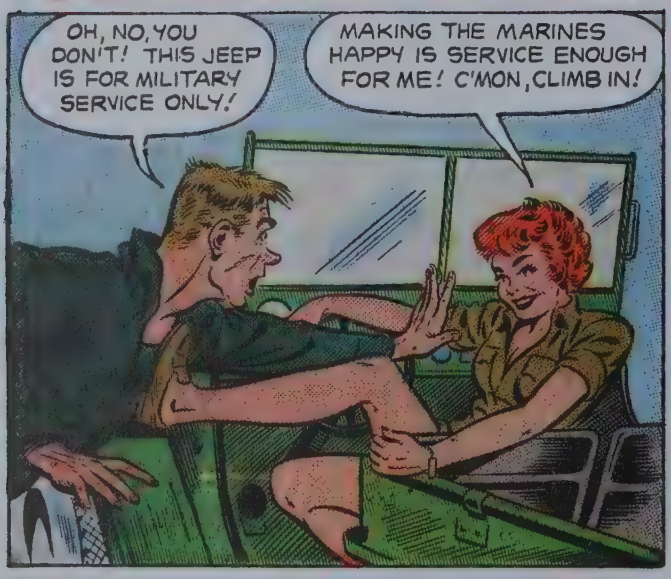

WHAT WE NEED IS A GOOD OLD-FASHIONED JUKE BOX!
I BET YOU CAN'T FIND ONE IN THE WHOLE COUNTRY!

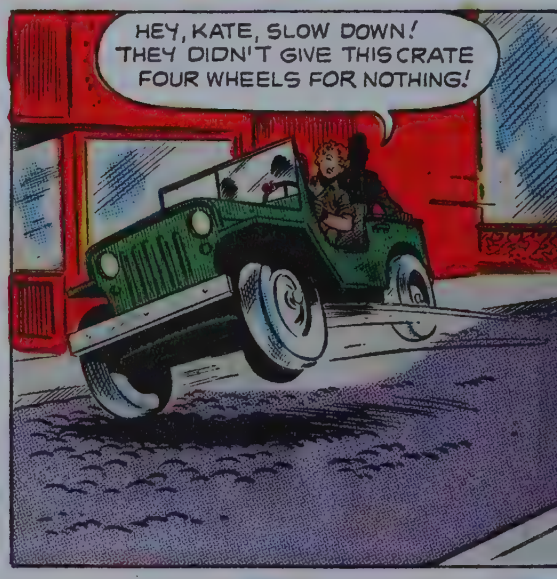
YOU'RE WRONG. AS A MATTER OF FACT, I SAW ONE IN A SHOP WINDOW, BUT THEY WANT $50 BUCKS FOR IT!
WONDERFUL! IF EVERBODY WOULD CHIP IN...

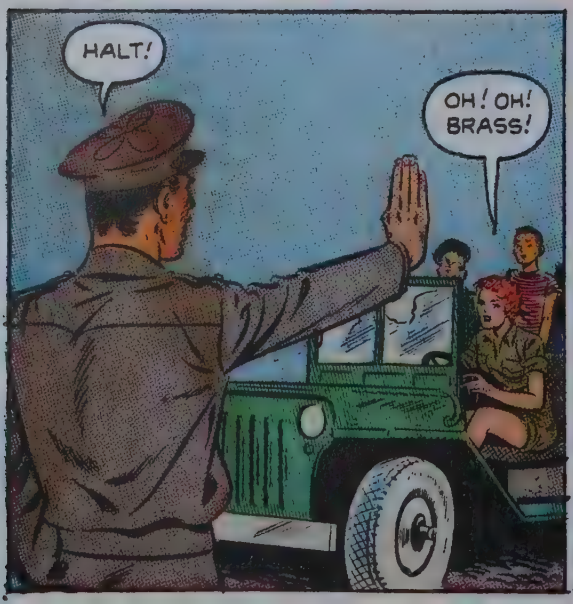

HEY-- WAIT!
ER...
'BYE NOW...
KATE...

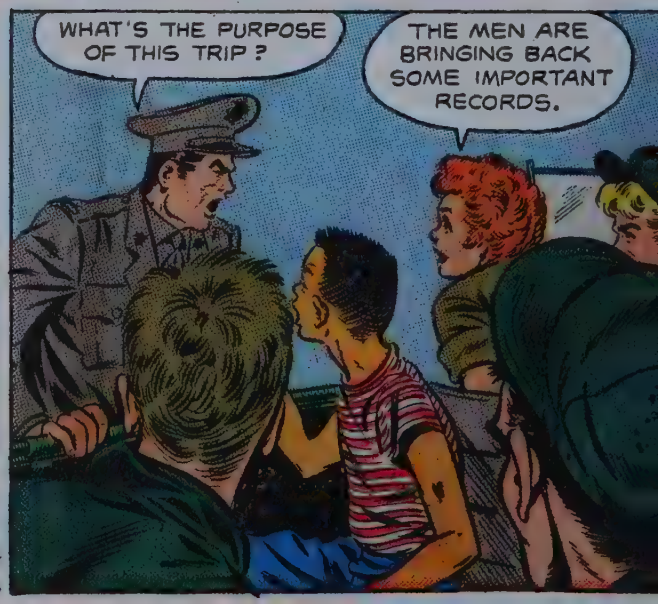
IF YOU CHEAP-SKATES LEAVE NOW... YOU'LL NEVER BE WELCOME IN THIS CANTEEN AGAIN! PUT UP THE MONEY OR OUT YOU GO!
BETTER SHELL UP, BOYS! THIS IS A BATTLE THE MARINES CAN'T WIN!


HEY, KATE, WHAT'S THE RUSH? HOW ARE YOU GONNA CART THE BOX BACK?
OH, THERE ARE WAYS!


OH, NO, YOU DON'T! THIS JEEP IS FOR MILITARY SERVICE ONLY!
MAKING THE MARINES HAPPY IS SERVICE ENOUGH FOR ME! C'MON, CLIMB IN!

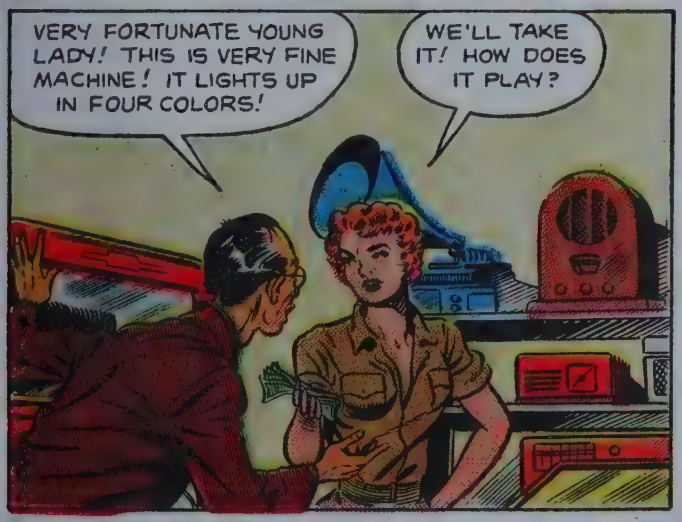

HEY, KATE, SLOW DOWN! THEY DIDN'T GIVE THIS CRATE FOUR WHEELS FOR NOTHING!

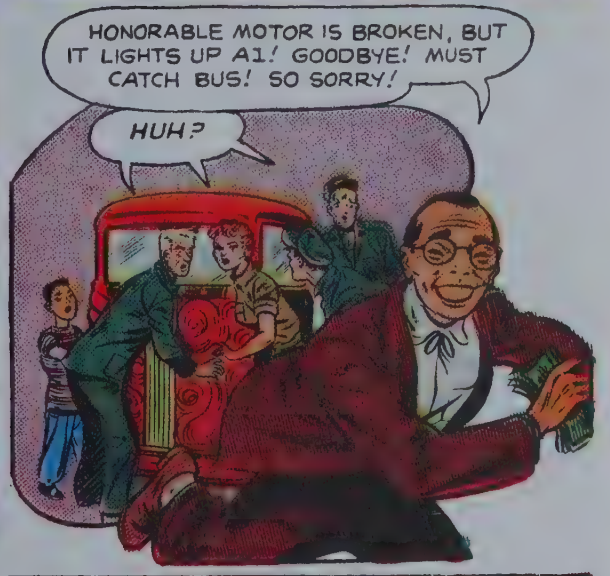

HALT!
OH! OH! BRASS!


WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF THIS TRIP?
THE MEN ARE BRINGING BACK SOME IMPORTANT RECORDS.

OH, MILITARY RECORDS? PROCEED!

TEN MINUTES LATER...
HERE IT IS, KATE! PURTY, HUH?
CHEAP $50.


VERY FORTUNATE YOUNG LADY! THIS IS VERY FINE MACHINE! IT LIGHTS UP IN FOUR COLORS!
WE'LL TAKE IT! HOW DOES IT PLAY?


HONORABLE MOTOR IS BROKEN, BUT IT LIGHTS UP A1! GOODBYE! MUST CATCH BUS! SO SORRY!
HUH?

WELL, THERE GOES OUR MONEY AND OUR MUSIC!
RELAX, ROCKY! WE CAN PICK UP SOME SPARE PARTS AT THE BASE!

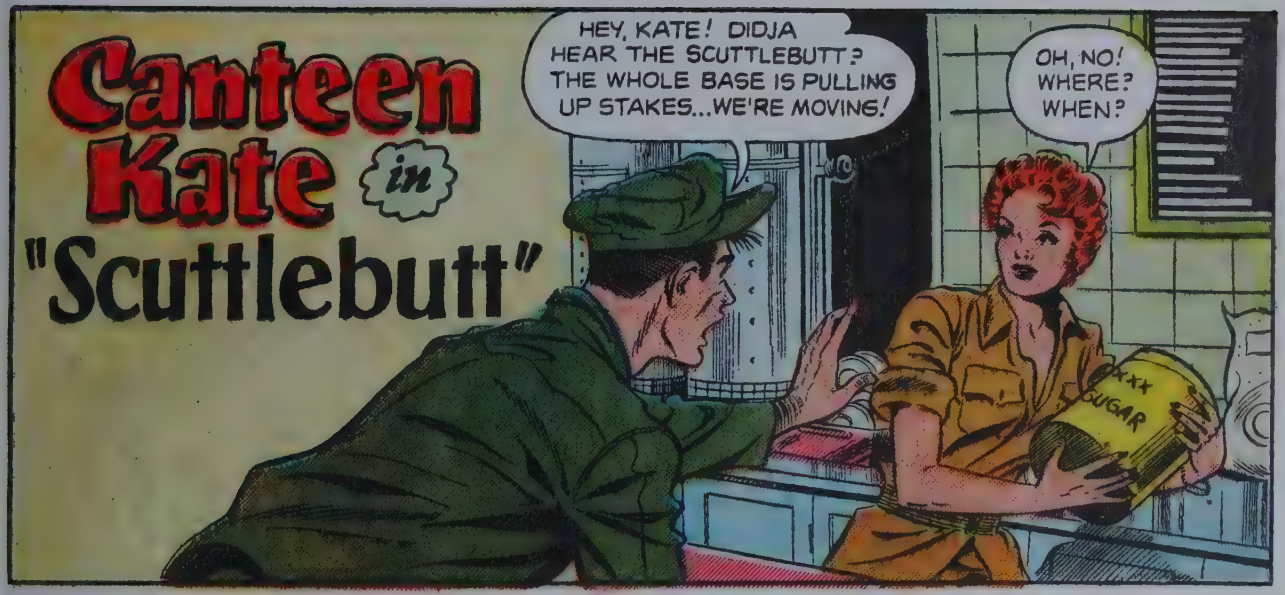
THE GUARDHOUSE IS FULL OF GUYS WHO HAD THAT IDEA!
NO EXCUSE! WE'LL MEET AT THE CANTEEN IN HALF AN HOUR... AFTER YOU PICK UP THE PARTS!

SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT WE WON'T GET ANY MUSIC-- WE'LL HAVE TO FACE THE MUSIC!
STOP!!
IT'S HIM AGAIN!
I'D JUST LIKE TO CHECK THOSE RECORDS!
YES, SIR!
SO! THESE ARE YOUR MILITARY RECORDS?
WELL, THERE ARE A COUPLE OF MARCHES IN THERE!
WE JUST CAUGHT THESE MEN BORROWING PARTS FROM THE SUPPLY DEPOT!
AND I CAUGHT THIS GROUP WITH A JUKE BOX AND SOME RECORDS!
THE BOYS DIDN'T MEAN ANY HARM! WE JUST WANTED TO HAVE SOME MUSIC AT THE CANTEEN!
HMM... A REAL JUKE BOX!

WELL, BOYS WILL BE BOYS! ER--YOU WOULDN'T MIND IF WE CAME OVER WITH A FEW OF OUR OWN RECORDS?
NOT AT ALL!
YIPPEE!!
THAT EVENING...
THE MOTOR IS PURRING LIKE A KITTEN!
HERE COME THE OFFICERS!
WOULD YOU PUT THIS RECORD ON FIRST, KATE?
GLADLY, SIR!
I HAVE SOME RECORDS, TOO!
ALLOW ME TO PUT THE FIRST SLUG IN!
OKAY--THEN MY POCKETFUL!
THE JUKE BOX IS SET FOR THE NEXT FOUR HOURS!
MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME, ROCKY!

HELLO, DADDY! THIS IS BEULAH! I AM FINE, AND MOMMY, TOO!
HEY-- THAT'S A RECORD OF SOMEBODY'S KID!
DO YOU HAVE ANY OBJECTIONS TO HEARING MY DAUGHTER?
WHO, ME? NO-- I LOVE LITTLE GIRLS!
WAIT TILL YOU HEAR THE RECORD OF MY WIFE!
I HAVE A BEAUT OF MY SON WHEN HE WAS A YEAR OLD! LISTEN TO HIM SAY "DADA."
AND I GAVE UP A GOOD DATE FOR TONIGHT!
♫ OH BURY ME NOT-- ♫
HAS ANYONE SEEN KATE?
PERHAPS WE TURN ON HONORABLE JAPANESE JIVE PROGRAM, MISSY?
APPLES

Canteen Kate in "Scuttlebutt"



I DON'T KNOW... YOU KNOW THE NAVY!... ALWAYS AT SEA! JUST THOUGHT I'D WARN YOU, KATE!
AND I SUPPOSE YOU'RE OFF TO SELL EVERY-THING THAT ISN'T TACKED DOWN!

HEY, JOE-- LOOK AT THAT!
AND I THOUGHT THINGS WERE GETTING DULL!
CANTEEN KATE FOR SALE
WHAT IS IT?... THE U.S.O. GONNA PAY US A VISIT?
NO... SOMETHING EVEN BETTER!
FOR SALE
HEY, JUNIOR, WHERE DO YA THINK YOU'RE GOING?
IN TO LAY MY GREENBACKS ON THE COUNTER!
HOW MUCH YOU GOT?
THREE BUCKS!
I'LL UP YOU TWO!
I'LL GO FIVE BETTER!
OKAY, WHICH ONE OF YOU MILLIONAIRES CAN OUTBID A TWENTY?
ME! ANY OBJECTIONS?
OH-OH... POOR KATE!
IT'S A GOOD THING FOR YOU, KITTEN, THAT I CAME ALONG AND GOT YOU OUT OF THAT MESS!
BUT WHAT'S HAPPENED? THERE MUST BE MORE TO THE STORY THAN THIS!

Canteen Kate in BRING 'EM BACK ALIVE
YEOW! HELP! CALL OUT THE MARINES!
I WAS ON GUARD DUTY AND HEARD YOU SCREAM! WHAT'S THE MATTER?
AL, A MONSTER! IT RAIDED THE ICEBOX, AND THEN JUMPED OUT THE WINDOW!
HEY, KATE, GIVE ME BACK THAT RIFLE!
I'VE GOT TO BAG THAT MONSTER BEFORE HE GETS AWAY! HE WAS AT LEAST SEVEN FEET TALL!

I THINK HE TOOK OFF ACROSS THAT FIELD! I'M GOING AFTER HIM!
KATE!

COME BACK HERE! I NEED THAT RIFLE! I'M ON GUARD DUTY!

MAYBE I'D BETTER WAIT FOR AL... HEY-- WHAT'S THAT?

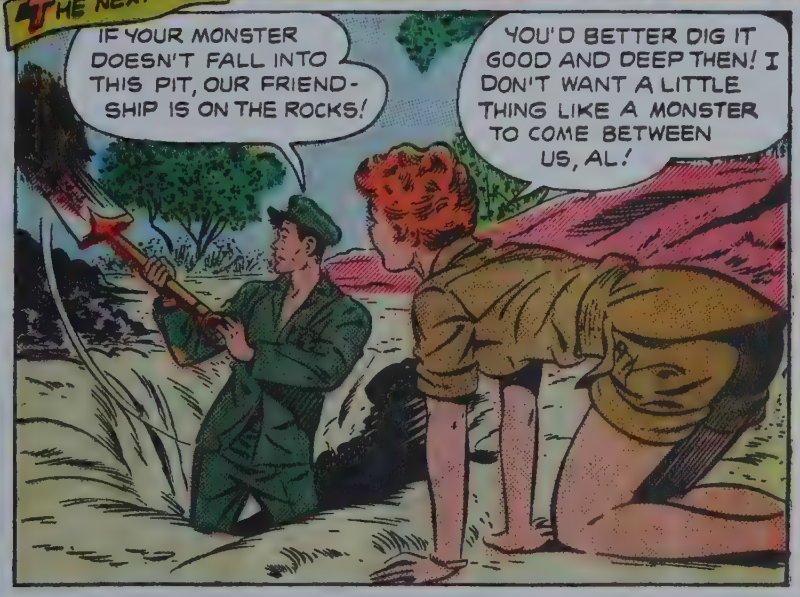
F-FRIEND OR F-FOE? HURRY AND ANSWER OR I'LL SHOOT!

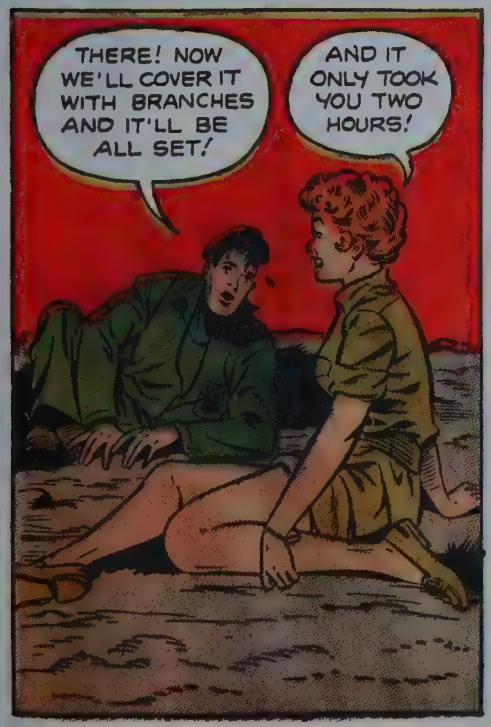
NO ANSWER! IT MUST BE THE MONSTER! WELL, TAKE THAT!
'STOP, KATE! ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?

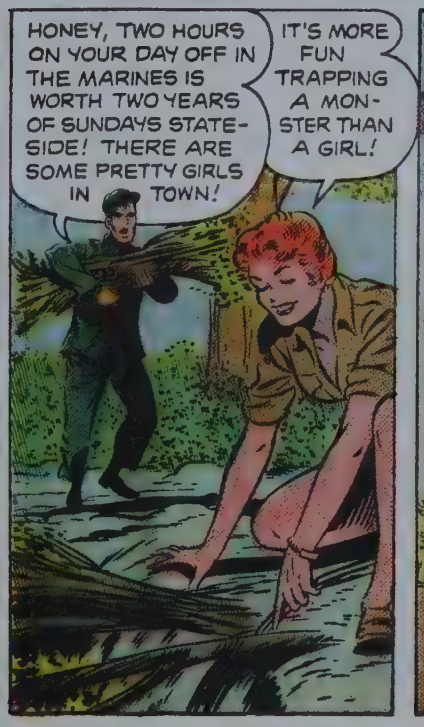
YOU JUST SHOT THE DUMMY WE USE FOR BAYONET PRACTICE!

THE MONSTER MUST HAVE GONE INTO THE WOODS!
WELL, IT'S TOO DARK TO FIND HIM NOW! AND BESIDES, I HAVE TO GET BACK TO GUARD DUTY!

TOMORROW'S YOUR DAY OFF, ISN'T IT, AL? LET'S BUILD A TRAP IN THE WOODS TO CATCH HIM!
NO ONE... ABSOLUTELY NO ONE IS GOING TO TALK ME INTO DIGGING HOLES ON MY DAY OFF! I'M NOT A BIG GAME HUNTER!


THE NEXT DAY...
IF YOUR MONSTER DOESN'T FALL INTO THIS PIT, OUR FRIENDSHIP IS ON THE ROCKS!
YOU'D BETTER DIG IT GOOD AND DEEP THEN! I DON'T WANT A LITTLE THING LIKE A MONSTER TO COME BETWEEN US, AL!

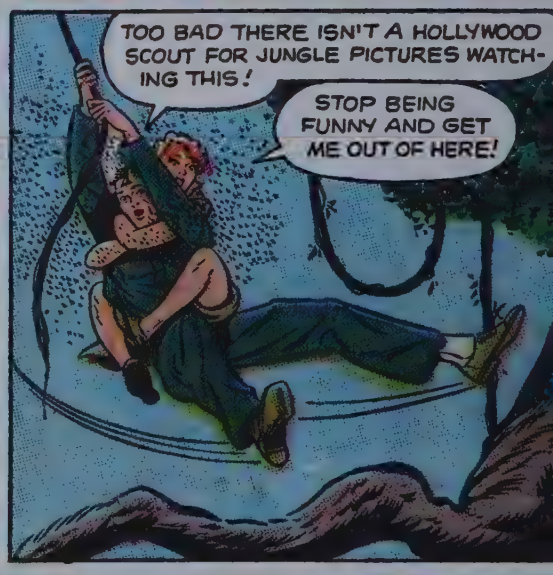

THERE! NOW WE'LL COVER IT WITH BRANCHES AND IT'LL BE ALL SET!
AND IT ONLY TOOK YOU TWO HOURS!


HONEY, TWO HOURS ON YOUR DAY OFF IN THE MARINES IS WORTH TWO YEARS OF SUNDAYS STATESIDE! THERE ARE SOME PRETTY GIRLS IN TOWN!
IT'S MORE FUN TRAPPING A MONSTER THAN A GIRL!

MAYBE... FOR YOU! WELL, C'MON! LET'S CLIMB UP THIS TREE AND WAIT FOR THE FIREWORKS!
AL, YOU'RE SO RESOURCEFUL. SOMETIMES I WONDER WHY YOU'RE STILL A PRIVATE!

I BET THIS PLACE'LL SOON BE BUZZING WITH ACTION!
HELP, AL! I STEPPED ON A HORNET'S NEST!
QUICK, LET'S SWING TO THE NEXT TREE!

I'LL NEVER COMPLAIN ABOUT A DUGOUT UP FRONT AFTER THIS AIR RAID!
OUCH! I'VE BEEN STUNG!


TOO BAD THERE ISN'T A HOLLYWOOD SCOUT FOR JUNGLE PICTURES WATCHING THIS!
STOP BEING FUNNY AND GET ME OUT OF HERE!

I THINK WE THREW THOSE HORNETS OFF THE SCENT!
THEN LET'S NESTLE IN SOME COZY BRANCH! MY BITE'S SWELLING

THE TIMES I LEAST EXPECT IT, YOU START GETTING ROMANTIC!
HUH?

YIPE! AL, LOOK! WE HAVE COMPANY!
THERE'S NOTHING TO GET EXCITED ABOUT. IT'S JUST A LITTLE MONKEY!
A PRETTY KNOWING LITTLE MONKEY IF YOU ASK ME! BUT HE IS CUTE!
USMC
WELL, C'MON, JUNIOR... WE'VE GOT TO PUT SOME MUD ON THESE HORNET BITES!
MINE STING LIKE MAD!
THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A MUD PACK FOR IMPROVING THE COMPLEXION!
CRASH!
THE TRAP!
HOORAY! WE'VE BAGGED THE MONSTER!
I CAN'T WAIT TO GET A LOOK AT HIM!
SOUNDS KIND OF HUMAN! MUST BE AN APE!

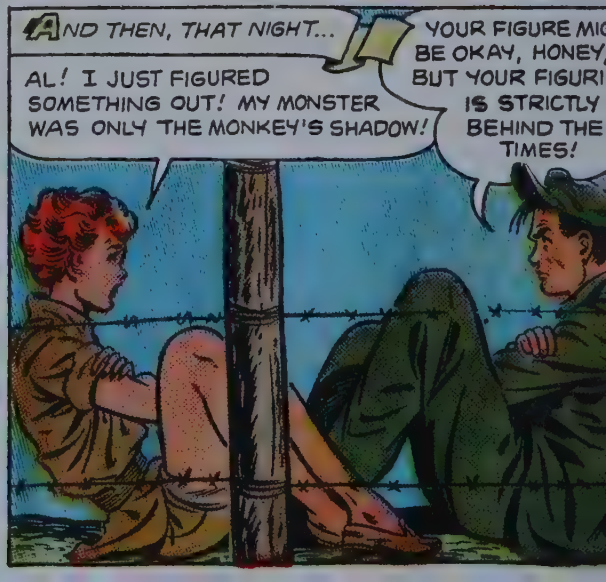
IT LOOKS SORT OF HUMAN, TOO... WHY, IT'S MAJOR HERRINGBONE!
YOICKS! STOCKADE, HERE I COME!

GET ME OUT OF HERE! QUICK! WHO ARE YOU TWO ANYWAY?
UH-- I'M PRIVATE--

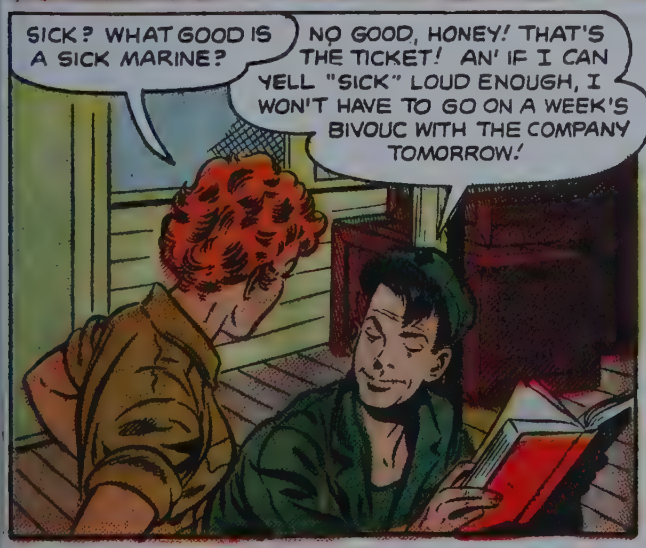
SHH! AL, HE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE US WITH THESE MUD PACKS! LET'S CLEAR OUT OF HERE!
WELL, ANSWER ME!

HEY! DON'T DO THAT! YOU'R RUINING MY CAMOUFLAGE!
THE LITTLE TRAITOR!
USMC

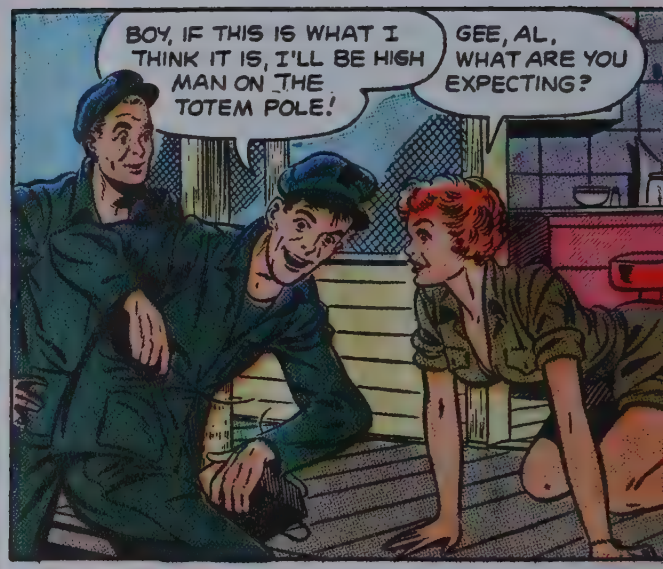
NOW I RECOGNIZE YOU! PRIVATE AL BROWN AND CANTEEN KATE--PFFT!!


AND THEN, THAT NIGHT...
AL! I JUST FIGURED SOMETHING OUT! MY MONSTER WAS ONLY THE MONKEY'S SHADOW!
YOUR FIGURE MI BE OKAY, HONEY, BUT YOUR FIGURI IS STRICTLY BEHIND THE TIMES!

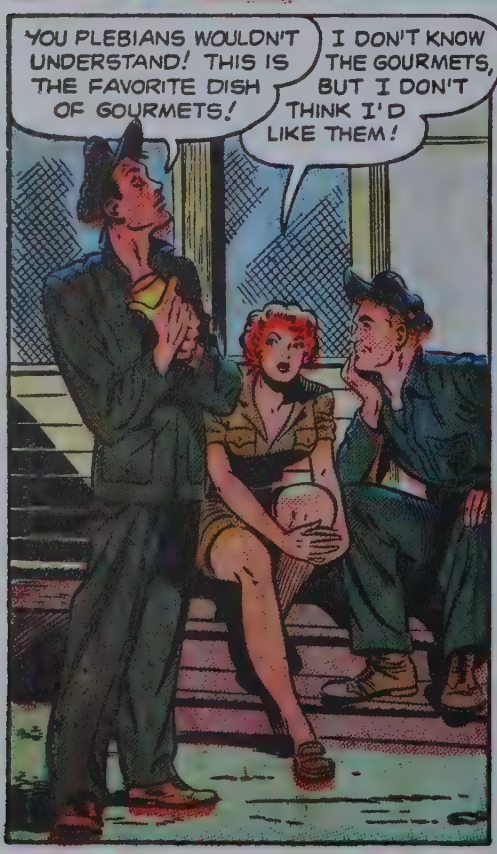
Canteen Kate in Much Ado about Mushrooms

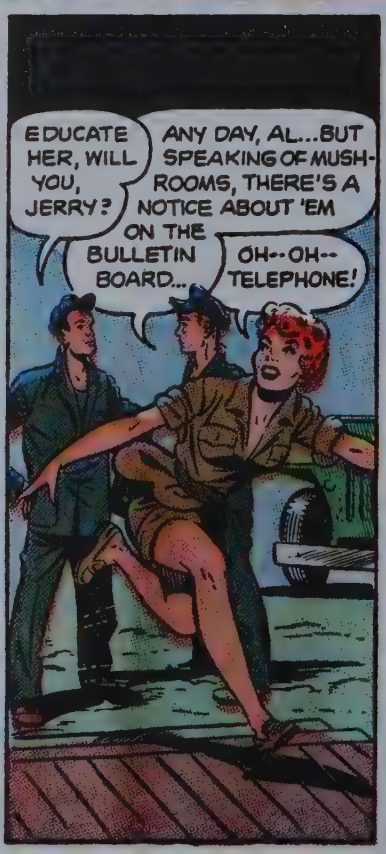

SICK? WHAT GOOD IS A SICK MARINE?
NO GOOD, HONEY! THAT'S THE TICKET! AN' IF I CAN YELL "SICK" LOUD ENOUGH, I WON'T HAVE TO GO ON A WEEK'S BIVOUC WITH THE COMPANY TOMORROW!

HEY, AL! MAIL JUST CAME IN! THERE'S A PACKAGE FOR YOU!
WELL, IT'S ABOUT TIME SANTA CLAUS REMEMBERED KOREA!


BOY, IF THIS IS WHAT I THINK IT IS, I'LL BE HIGH MAN ON THE TOTEM POLE!
GEE, AL, WHAT ARE YOU EXPECTING?

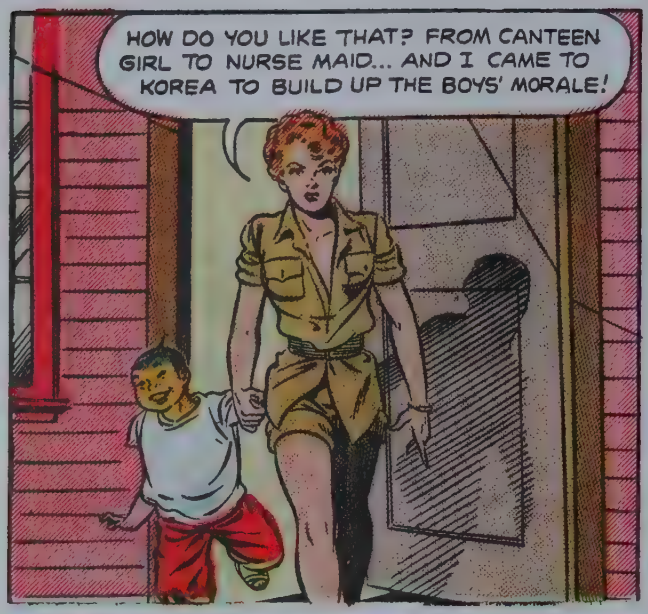
MUSHROOM SOUP! AND HERE IT IS!
MUSHROOM SOUP!!

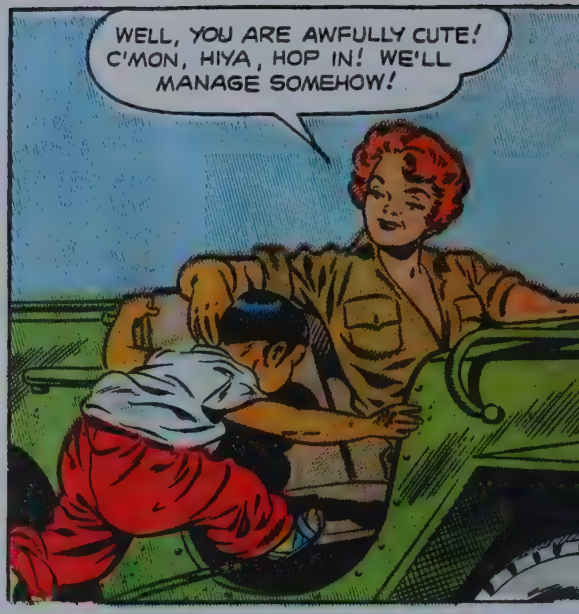

YOU PLEBIANS WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND! THIS IS THE FAVORITE DISH OF GOURMETS!
I DON'T KNOW THE GOURMETS, BUT I DON'T THINK I'D LIKE THEM!

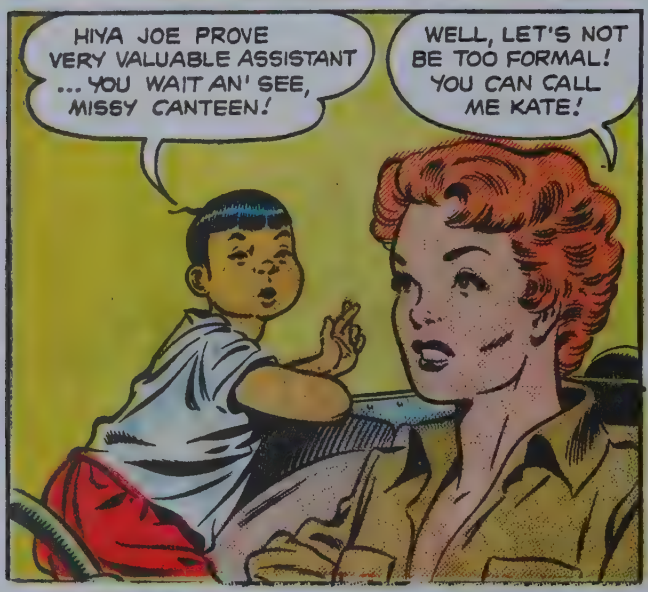

EDUCATE HER, WILL YOU, JERRY?
ANY DAY, AL...BUT SPEAKING OF MUSHROOMS, THERE'S A NOTICE ABOUT 'EM ON THE BULLETIN BOARD...
OH--OH--TELEPHONE!

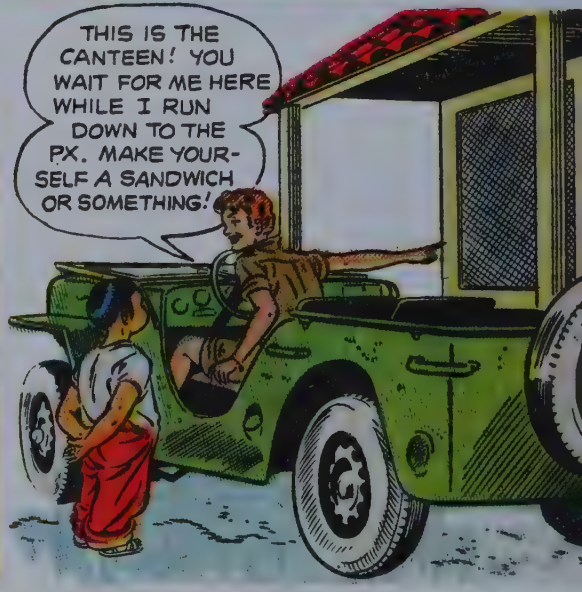
KATE...THIS IS MAJOR HERRINGBONE! I'VE GOT A YOUNG MAN IN MY OFFICE THOUGHT HE MIGHT BE AB TO HELP OUT AT THE CANTEEN... INTERESTED
INTERESTED YESSIR! I'LL RIGHT OVER

HEY, KATE! WHERE ARE YOU GOIN'? AREN'T YOU GONNA FIX THIS SOUP FOR ME?
CAN'T RIGHT NOW! LEAVE IT ON THE SHELF! I'LL FIX IT FOR YOU TONIGHT!
OH-- ALL RIGHT! BUT IT'S GOING TO BE HARD TO WAIT! I'LL BE DREAMING OF MUSHROOM SOUP ALL DAY!
HOW ROMANTIC!
A HELPER FOR THE CANTEEN! JUST WHAT I NEED! I'LL BE ABLE TO SIT BACK AND TAKE LIFE EASY!
I HOPE HE'S BIG, STRONG AND STRAPPING! FULL OF PEP, VIGOR AND VITALITY! OH, BOY!
CANTEEN KATE REPORTING FOR THE PICK-UP, MAJOR! WHERE IS HE?
RIGHT OVER HERE!
Y-YOU DON'T MEAN THAT!
YEP! HIS NAME IS HIYA JOE! AND HE'S YOURS FOR THE DURATION!

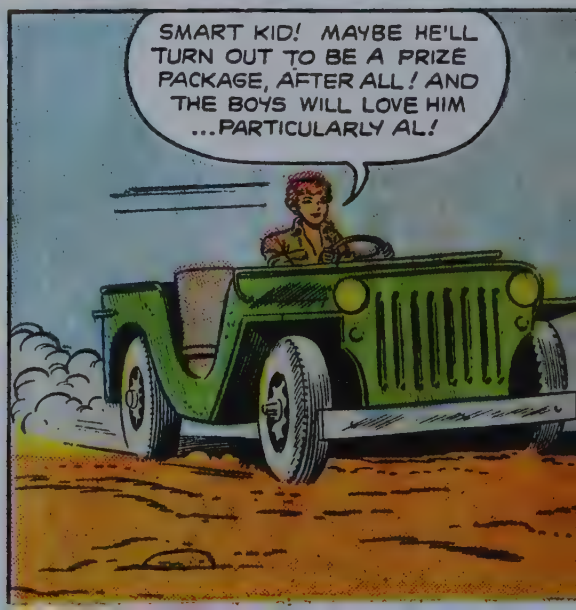

HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT? FROM CANTEEN GIRL TO NURSE MAID... AND I CAME TO KOREA TO BUILD UP THE BOYS' MORALE!


WELL, YOU ARE AWFULLY CUTE! C'MON, HIYA, HOP IN! WE'LL MANAGE SOMEHOW!


HIYA JOE PROVE VERY VALUABLE ASSISTANT ... YOU WAIT AN' SEE, MISSY CANTEEN!
WELL, LET'S NOT BE TOO FORMAL! YOU CAN CALL ME KATE!

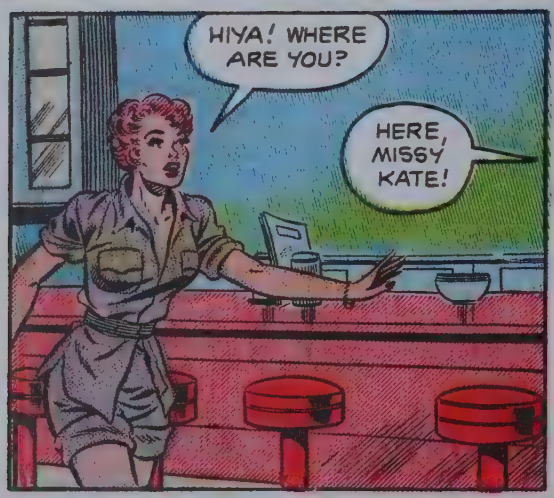

THIS IS THE CANTEEN! YOU WAIT FOR ME HERE WHILE I RUN DOWN TO THE P.X. MAKE YOURSELF A SANDWICH OR SOMETHING!

GOOD! ME EAT HARD NOW... WORK HARD LATER!


SMART KID! MAYBE HE'LL TURN OUT TO BE A PRIZE PACKAGE, AFTER ALL! AND THE BOYS WILL LOVE HIM ...PARTICULARLY AL!

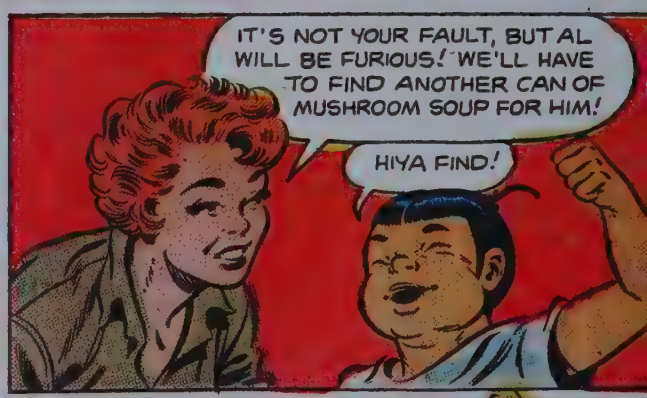
HMM... WONDER IF THIS IS FOOD! IF ONLY STUPID ONE COULD READ... WELL, ME TRY IT!
SNAPPIES
CORN TIES
HELP! ATOM BOMB FOOD!
POP
POP
SNAP
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
MAYBE FOOD IN CLOSET!
ULP! BOOBY TRAP!
AH... HERE IS FOOD!
SOAP FLAKES
UMM! THIS BETTER! BUT--
SOAP FLAKES

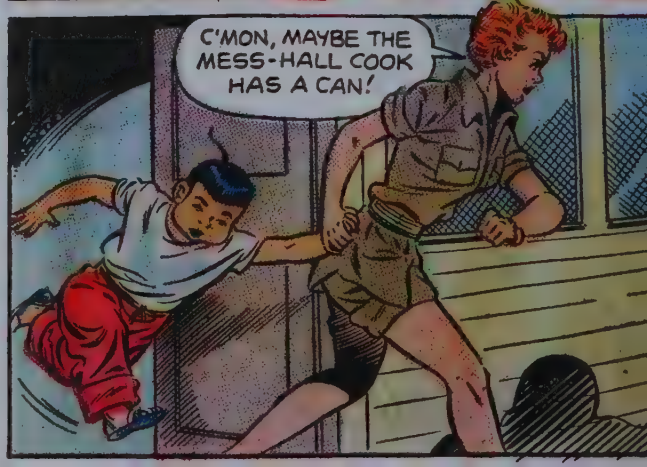
I WONDER HOW HIYA IS DOING?

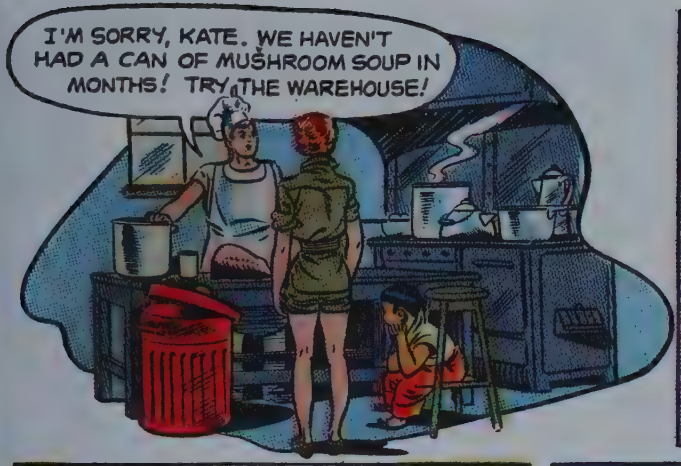

HIYA! WHERE ARE YOU?
HERE, MISSY KATE!

OH, YOU ATE SOME SOUP! WHERE DID YOU FIND IT? I THOUGHT WE WERE ALL OUT!
IN CAN ON KITCHEN SHELF!

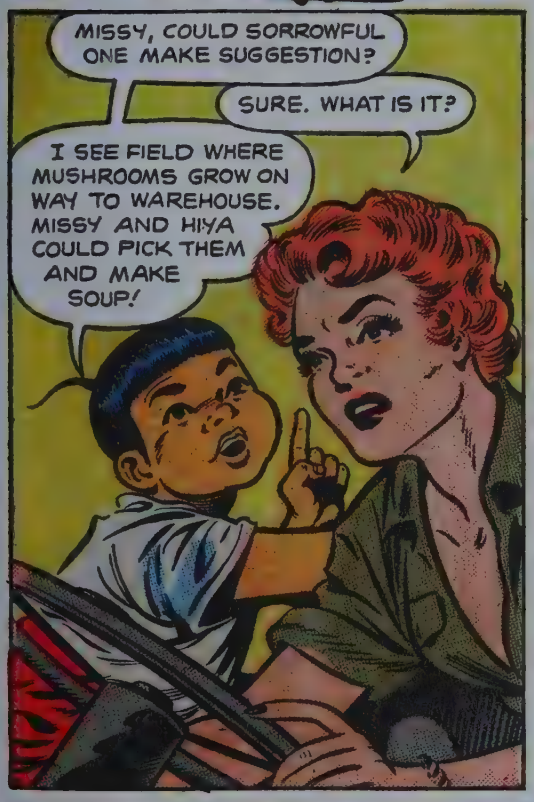
OH, HEAVENS! IT'S AL'S CAN OF MUSHROOM SOUP!
HIYA SHOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN CAN FROM SHELF?

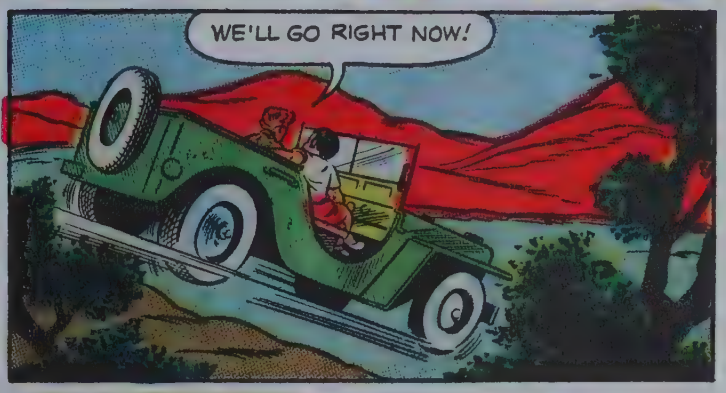

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, BUT AL WILL BE FURIOUS! WE'LL HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER CAN OF MUSHROOM SOUP FOR HIM!
HIYA FIND!

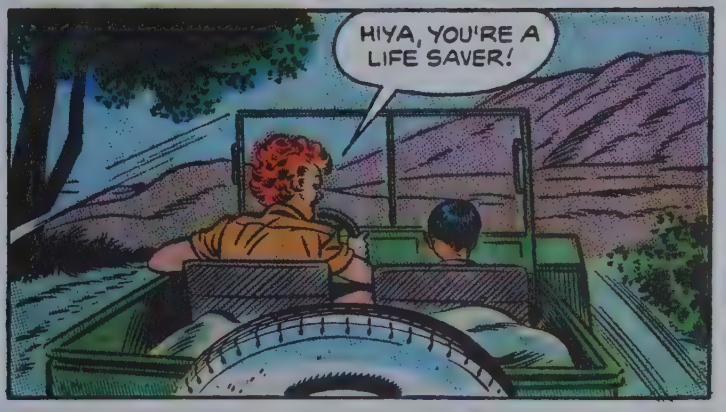

C'MON, MAYBE THE MESS-HALL COOK HAS A CAN!


I'M SORRY, KATE. WE HAVEN'T HAD A CAN OF MUSHROOM SOUP IN MONTHS! TRY THE WAREHOUSE!

NO SOAP, KATE! MUSHROOM SOUP ISN'T BEING SHIPPED TO THE FAR EAST!
OH, DEAR!
XXX


MISSY, COULD SORROWFUL ONE MAKE SUGGESTION?
SURE. WHAT IS IT?
I SEE FIELD WHERE MUSHROOMS GROW ON WAY TO WAREHOUSE. MISSY AND HIYA COULD PICK THEM AND MAKE SOUP!


WE'LL GO RIGHT NOW!


HIYA, YOU'RE A LIFE SAVER!

JUST LOOK AT THESE BEAUTIFUL MUSHROOMS! WE'LL MAKE AL A BOWL OF SOUP HE'LL NEVER FORGET!

OUR SOUP WILL BE BETTER THAN THAT OLD CANNED STUFF ANYWAY!
WATCH OUT! A SNAKE!
DON'T WORRY, MISSY! HIYA TAKE CARE OF SNAKE! HIYA GOOD PITCHER!
BRAVO! SNAKE'S-EYE, HIYA!
YOU SCARED HIM OFF, HIYA! LET'S QUIT NOW. WE HAVE ENOUGH MUSHROOMS TO FEED THE WHOLE MARINE CORPS!
SO YOU REALLY WANT TO BE A PITCHER WHEN YOU GROW UP?
SURE, MISSY! WATCH THIS! MAKE HOME RUN EVERY TIME!
QUICK! LET'S GET MOVING! YOU JUST STRUCK OUT!

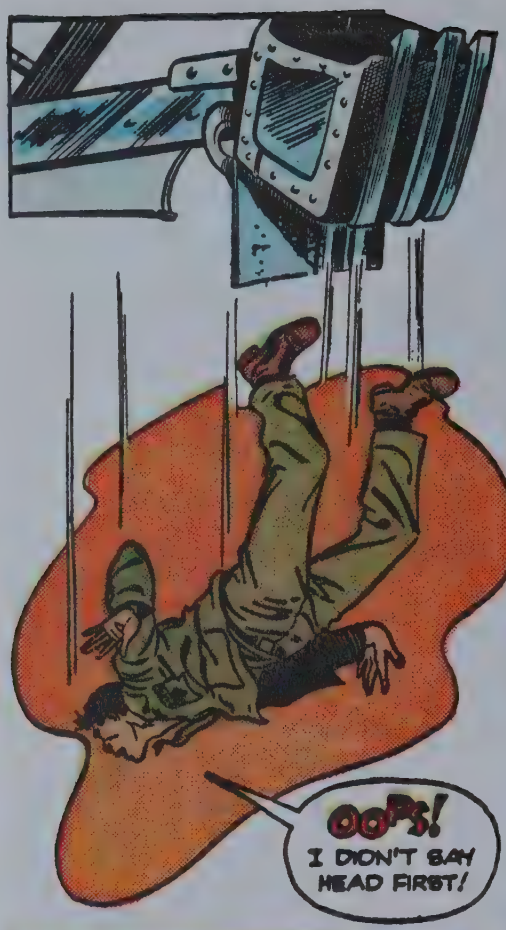
EARLY THAT EVENING...
HIYA DEEPLY SORRY ABOUT HORNETS, MISSY KATE!
FORGET IT, HIYA! IT WAS WORTH IT TO GET THIS SOUP FOR AL!
MM-M... AMBROSIA OF THE GODS! CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP!
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL COLOR! WHAT MAGNIFICENT TEXTURE!
UGH! THIS DOESN'T TASTE LIKE CANNED MUSHROOM SOUP!
OF COURSE NOT! IT'S FRESH MUSHROOM SOUP! I MADE IT MYSELF!
FRESH MUSHROOM SOUP! WHAT HAPPENED TO MY CAN OF SOUP? AND WHERE DID YOU GET FRESH MUSHROOM?
WE PICKED THEM IN THE FIELD BY THE WAREHOUSE.
YOU SURE LEARNED HOW TO ACT ILL FROM THAT MEDICAL BOOK!
ACT? I AM ILL! THE NOTICE THAT JERRY TOLD ME ABOUT WAS A WARNING AGAINST GOING IN THAT FIELD! IT'S FULL OF POISONED TOADSTOOLS!
THE DOC SAYS YOU'LL BE HERE FOR A WEEK. WELL, YOU WANTED TO GO ON SICK CALL, DIDN'T YOU?
YEAH, BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO BE SICK WHEN I WENT!

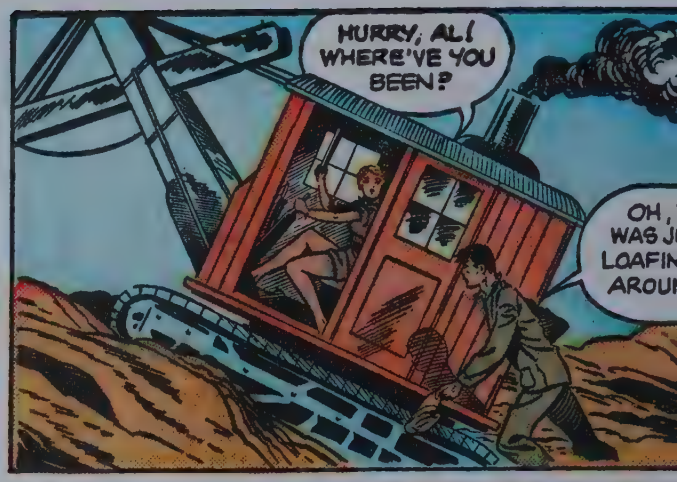
Canteen Kate

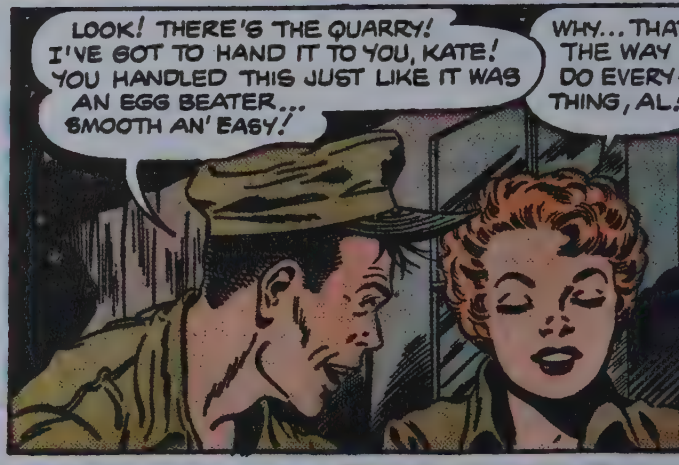
"FOXHOLE FLOOZIE"

HI, KATE! HOP IN! WISH I COULD HAVE GOTTEN TIME OFF FOR A SWIM WITH YOU IN THE STONE QUARRY.
YOU'RE GOING TO BE THERE TOMORROW NIGHT...ON ARMY TIME. MAJOR HERRINGBONE'S PLANNING A FOXHOLE-DIGGING PARTY... IN SOLID ROCK. BUT I THINK WE CAN OUT-MANEUVER HIM IF YOU DRIVE TO THE EXCAVATION PROJECT DOWN THE ROAD.
I THOUGHT WE COULD BORROW THAT STEAM SHOVEL AND DIG THE FOXHOLES IN ADVANCE!
SH-H... FOLLOW ME.
THINK OF HOW EASY IT WOULD BE WITH THIS MONSTER!
MY MUSCLES ARE ALREADY IN AGREEMENT. BUT HOW DO WE MOVE IT?
SEE? THE KEYS ARE ON THE TABLE NEXT TO THE WATCHMAN! WE CAN GRAB THEM, DO THE JOB AND RETURN THE STEAM SHOVEL BEFORE HE WAKES UP!
HE'S GOT THE MOST MUSICAL SNORE I'VE EVER HEARD!
SH-H!

SO FAR, SO GOOD! NOW LET'S SNEAK OUT!
WHAT A SOFT JOB HE'S GOT!
YOU KNOW, WHEN I GET OUTA THE ARMY, I'M GONNA GET ME A WATCHMAN'S JOB! JUST THINK... TWENTY-FOUR HOURS' SLEEP A DAY!
STOP DREAMING!
NOW TO GET TO WORK. GOOD! THIS KEY FITS PERFECTLY!
BETTER HURRY BEFORE JUNIOR WAKES UP!
O.K.! YOU STAND GUARD! IT'LL ONLY TAKE ME A MINUTE TO GET THE HANG OF IT.
HOORAY! I'VE GOT THE COMBINATION!
HURRY, AL! GET ABOARD!
KATE! ARE YOU GOING MAD? LET ME DOWN! LET ME LOOSE! DROP ME, DO YOU HEAR?


OOPS!
I DIDN'T SAY HEAD FIRST!


HURRY, AL! WHERE'VE YOU BEEN?
OH, I WAS J LOAFIN AROU


LOOK! THERE'S THE QUARRY! I'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO YOU, KATE! YOU HANDLED THIS JUST LIKE IT WAS AN EGG BEATER... SMOOTH AN' EASY!
WHY... THA THE WAY DO EVERY THING, AL!

THEN, AN HOUR LATER...
WILL YA LOOK AT THAT? TWENTY FIRST-RATE FOXHOLES... NOT AN ANT IN THE CARLOAD! WAIT 'TIL THE THE GUYS HEAR ABOUT THIS!

UH-OH! I SPOKE TOO SOON!
THE WATCHMAN! LET'S BEAT IT!

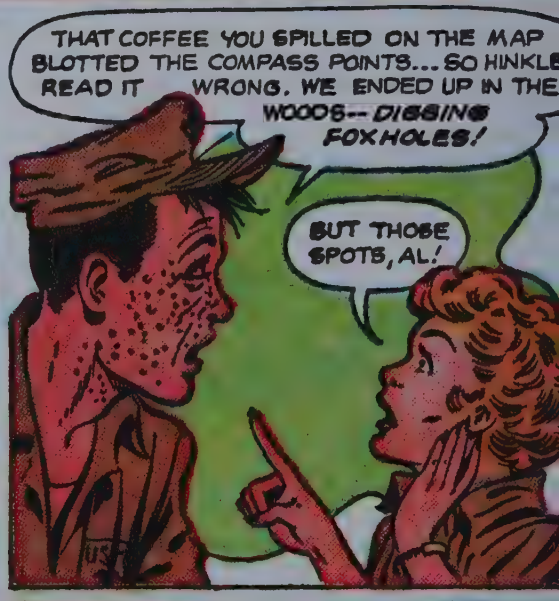
HEY, YOU TWO! COME BACK HERE! COME BACK, I SAY!
IS HE KIDDIN'

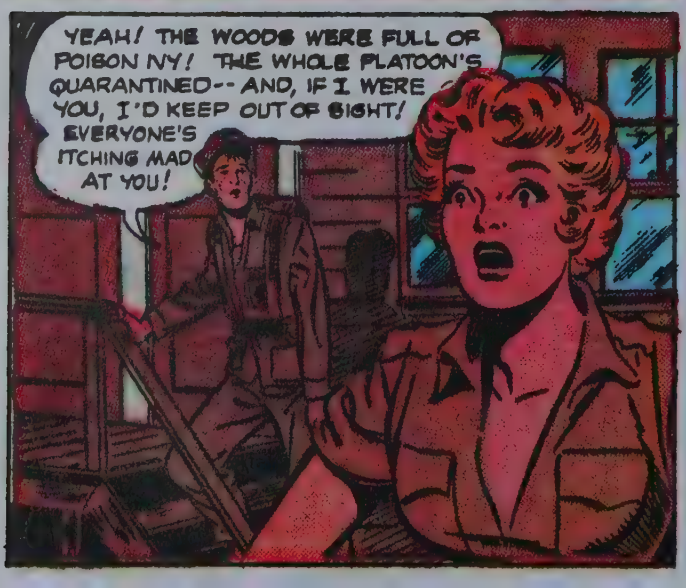
WELL, AT LEAST HE SAVED US THE BOTHER OF RETURNING THE STEAM SHOVEL!
YEAH! THINK WE SHOULD WRITE HIM A THANK-YOU NOTE?
MEANWHILE... IN MAJOR HEADQUARTERS OFFICE...
I'LL INK IN THE COMPASS POINTS AND THE MAP WILL BE FINISHED! CALL SERGEANTS HINKLEY AND MERKS!
YES, SIR!
MEN! THIS IS THE MARCH ROUTE FOR TOMORROW! FOLLOW YOUR COMPASSES AND YOU'LL LEAD YOUR PLATOONS RIGHT OVER THE MARKED GROUND!
VERY GOOD, SIR!
DOLLARS TO DOUGHNUTS HE PLANNED A TOUGH COURSE FOR US!
LET'S GO TO THE CANTEEN AND TRY TO DOPE IT OUT!
HI, FELLERS! WHAT'LL YOU HAVE?
JUST A TABLE AND SOME COFFEE CUTE-STUFF!
HERE YOU ARE! FAST SERVICE, HUH? OOPS!
KATE! WATCH OUT! THE MAP!
OH, I'M SORRY! DID THE COFFEE RUIN IT?
THE INK RAN A LITTLE, BUT I GUESS IT'S O.K.

THE NEXT DAY, THE MARINES DEPART. THEN, EARLY MORNING, TWO DAYS LATER, THEY TROOP BACK, SLOWLY AND SADLY...
MY GOODNESS! THEY ALL LOOK SO FUNNY! IS IT MY EYES, OR ARE THOSE BOYS SPECKLED?

O.K., MEN! FALL OUT! THEN REPORT TO SICK BAY -- ALL OF YOU!

AL! AL! IT'S ME, KATE! YOU LOOK TERRIBLE! WHAT HAPPENED?


THAT COFFEE YOU SPILLED ON THE MAP BLOTTED THE COMPASS POINTS... SO HINKLE READ IT WRONG. WE ENDED UP IN THE WOODS -- DIGGING FOXHOLES!
BUT THOSE SPOTS, AL!

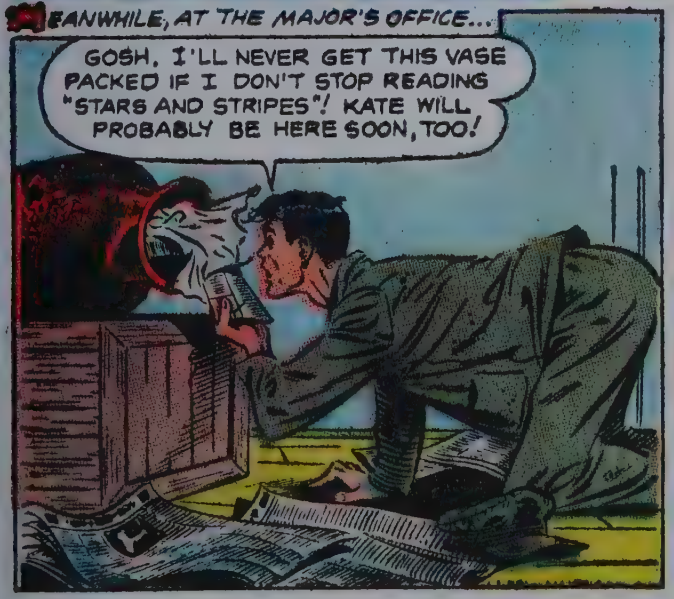

YEAH! THE WOODS WERE FULL OF POISON IVY! THE WHOLE PLATOON'S QUARANTINED -- AND, IF I WERE YOU, I'D KEEP OUT OF SIGHT! EVERYONE'S ITCHING MAD AT YOU!

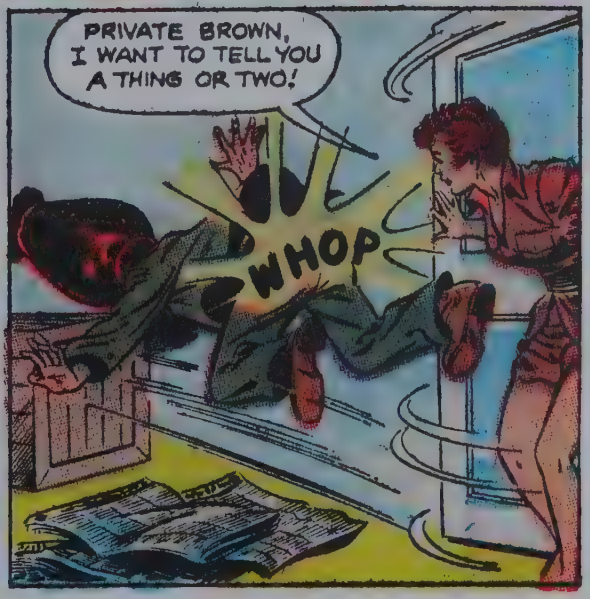
WELL, THESE FOXHOLES WEREN'T WASTED AFTER ALL. I'LL HIDE HERE UNTIL IT'S SAFE TO GO BACK TO THE BASE!

Canteen Kate

in "SAY IT WITH FLOUR"

HEY, KATE! AL WANTS YOU TO PICK HIM UP AT MAJOR HERRINGBONE'S HEADQUARTERS AND DRIVE HIM TO THE P.X.
HMM...JUST GIVE A MARINE AN INCH AND HE TAKES THE WHOLE TERRITORY!


MEANWHILE, AT THE MAJOR'S OFFICE...
GOSH, I'LL NEVER GET THIS VASE PACKED IF I DON'T STOP READING "STARS AND STRIPES"! KATE WILL PROBABLY BE HERE SOON, TOO!

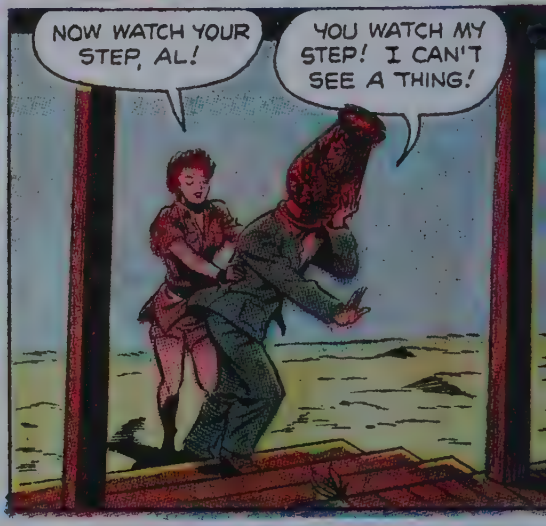


TRYING TO HIDE, HUH? NOW STOP PLAYING COY! C'MON OUT OF THERE AND LISTEN TO ME!
UMPH-- I'M STUCK! GET ME OUT OF THIS THING!

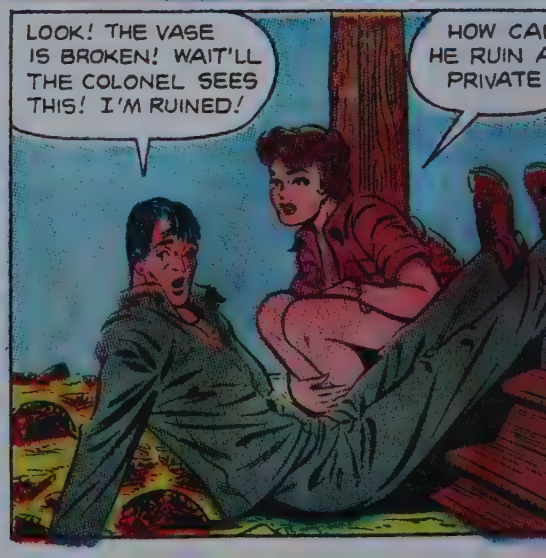
IF THIS IS THE VASE THE COLONEL IS SENDING TO THE STATES, I GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO SHIP YOU WITH IT!

THIS IS NO TIME TO BE FUNNY! GET ME OUT BEFORE I BLACKOUT!
I'LL LEAD YO TO THE CANTEEN A LITTLE SOA AND WATER WILL DO THE TRICK!

HEY, GET A LOAD OF THE NEW MARINE HEADGEAR!


NOW WATCH YOUR STEP, AL!
YOU WATCH MY STEP! I CAN'T SEE A THING!

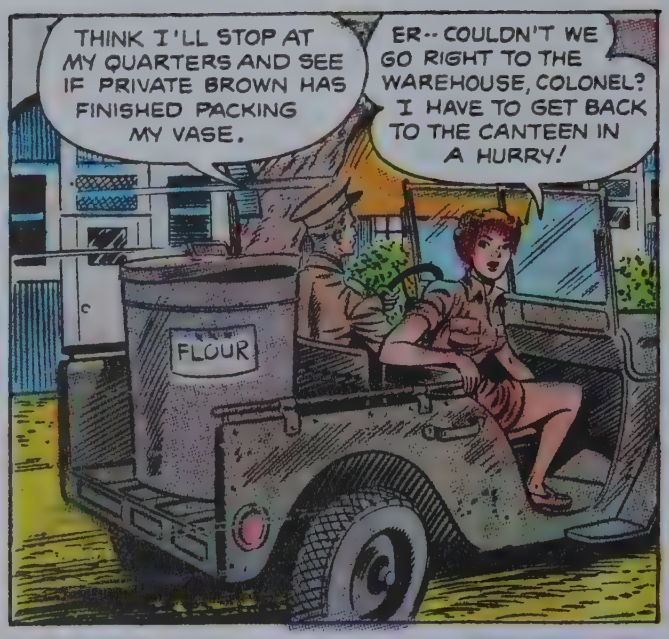
ULP! HELP!
YOU MIGHT'VE KNOWN IF THERE'D BEEN A BANANA PEEL IN THE WHOLE CAMP, HIS FOOT WOULD FIND IT!

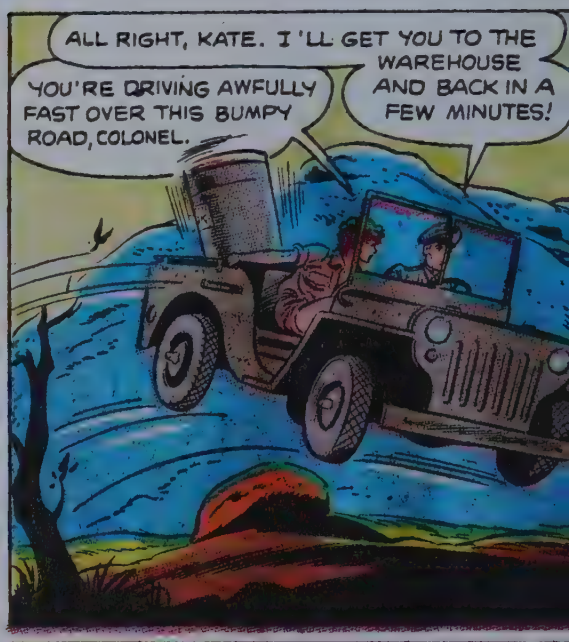

LOOK! THE VASE IS BROKEN! WAIT'LL THE COLONEL SEES THIS! I'M RUINED!
HOW CA HE RUIN A PRIVATE

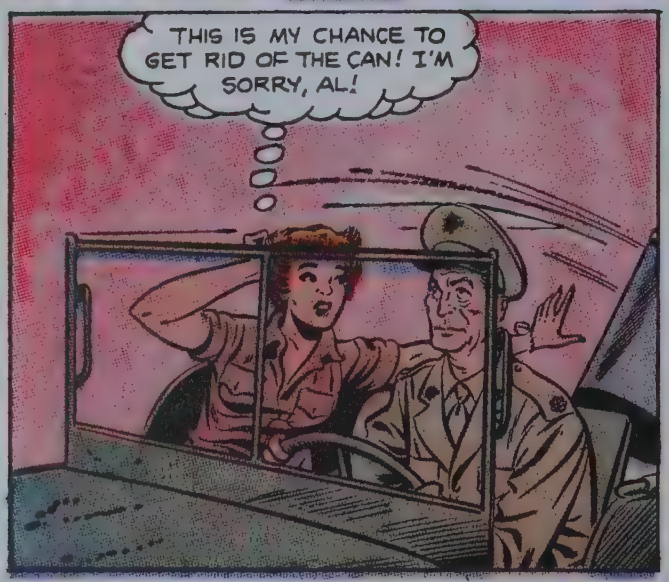
OOH! I'LL HAVE TO GO OVER THE HILL! I'M ALL WASHED UP HERE!
IT'S NOT AS BAD AS ALL THAT, AL. I CAN FIX IT!
FIX IT, KATE! ARE YOU CRAZY? HOW CAN YOU MAKE THESE TINY PIECES OF NOTHING LOOK LIKE A MING VASE?
I CAN STICK THE PIECES TOGETHER WITH FLOUR AND WATER PASTE AND IT'LL LOOK JUST LIKE NEW!
DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN, KATE?
IT'LL BE A CINCH. LET'S GET TO WORK.
OPEN THE FLOUR CAN FOR ME, AL. I'LL GET SOME WATER.
YOU BET! I HAVE A FEELING EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT NOW!
XXX
LOUR
HOLD IT, AL! HERE COMES COLONEL CLANCY!
OWW!! THERE GOES THAT FEELING I JUST HAD!

THE COLONEL CAN'T FIND ME HERE! I'VE GOT TO BEAT IT!
IT'S TOO LATE! HE'S COMING IN THE FRONT DOOR NOW!
QUICK! HIDE IN THE FLOUR CAN!
HE WON'T STAY MORE THAN A MINUTE!
WHY, IF IT ISN'T COLONEL CLANCY! WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, COLONEL?
I'VE COM
TO SEE YO
ABOUT YOU
FLOUR.
XXX
MY F-F-FLOUR?
YES. WE FOUND WEEVILS IN THE FLOUR DOWN AT THE WAREHOUSE. I WANT TO EXAMINE YOURS.
I-I'M SURE M-MINE IS PERFECT!
WELL, I'LL JUST TAKE A LOOK!

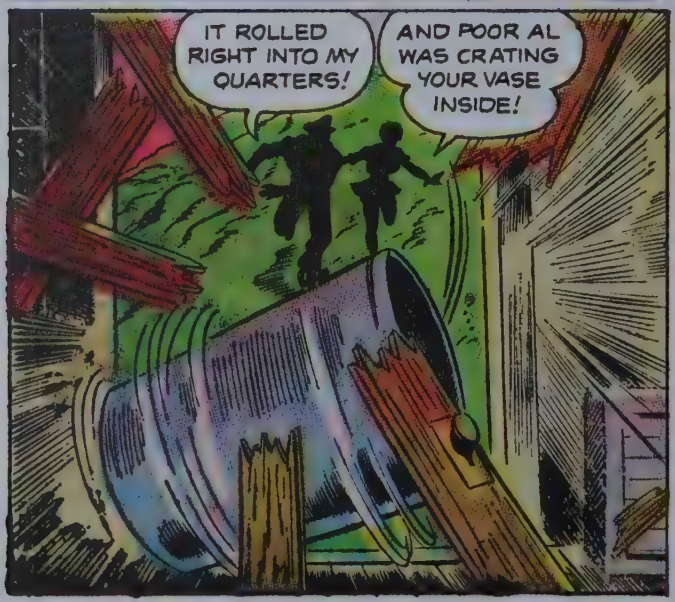
CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL ABOUT WHAT GETS INTO OUR FOOD, YOU KNOW!
:GULP: Y-YESSIR!
HMMM...
I DON'T SEE ANY WEEVILS IN THIS FLOUR.
THERE! WHAT DID I TELL YOU?
BUT JUST TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE, WE'LL TAKE THE CAN DOWN TO THE WAREHOUSE FOR A THOROUGH EXAMINATION!
GOSH, THIS IS HEAVY!
XXX FLOUR
IT'S BECAUSE... ER... BECAUSE IT'S THE NEW FORTIFIED FLOUR... WITH ALL THE VITAMINS LEFT IN IT.
WANT TO COME ALONG, KATE? MIGHT LEARN SOMETHING INTERESTING DOWN THERE!
S-SOMETHING I DON'T KNOW ALREADY?

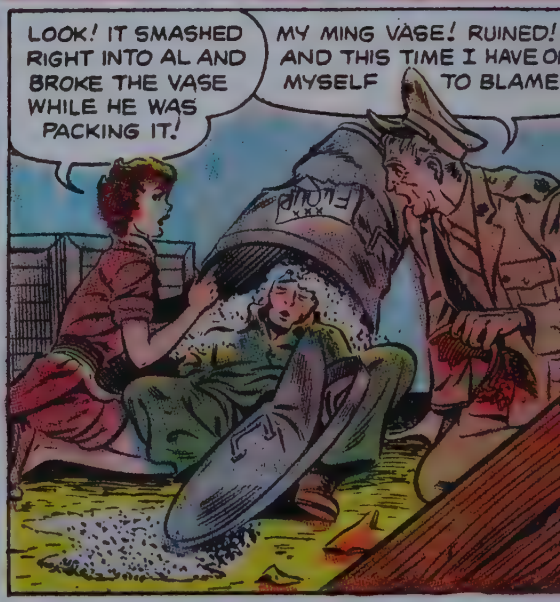

THINK I'LL STOP AT MY QUARTERS AND SEE IF PRIVATE BROWN HAS FINISHED PACKING MY VASE.
ER-- COULDN'T WE GO RIGHT TO THE WAREHOUSE, COLONEL? I HAVE TO GET BACK TO THE CANTEEN IN A HURRY!
FLOUR


ALL RIGHT, KATE. I'LL GET YOU TO THE WAREHOUSE AND BACK IN A FEW MINUTES!
YOU'RE DRIVING AWFULLY FAST OVER THIS BUMPY ROAD, COLONEL.

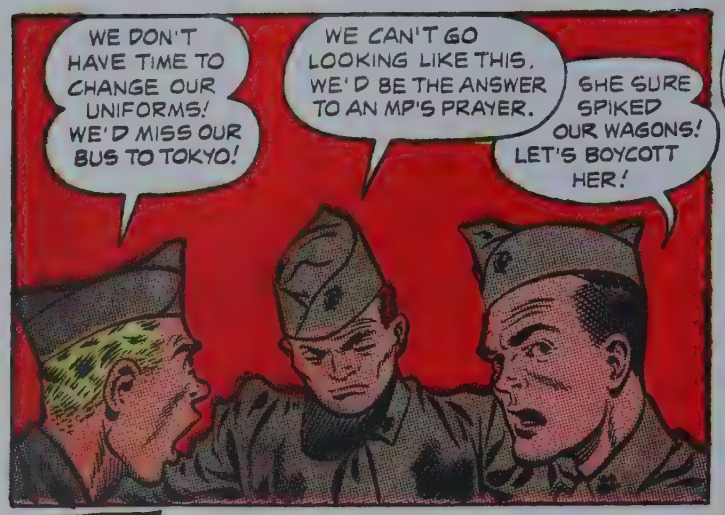

THIS IS MY CHANCE TO GET RID OF THE CAN! I'M SORRY, AL!

GOOD GRIEF! THERE GOES THE FLOUR CAN! IT MUST HAVE BOUNCED OUT ON THAT LAST BUMP!
FLOUR


IT ROLLED RIGHT INTO MY QUARTERS!
AND POOR AL WAS CRATING YOUR VASE INSIDE!


LOOK! IT SMASHED RIGHT INTO AL AND BROKE THE VASE WHILE HE WAS PACKING IT!
MY MING VASE! RUINED! AND THIS TIME I HAVE O MYSELF TO BLAME
FLOUR

Canteen KATE in
Trouble In Major Key
BOY! WE LOOK LIKE THOSE RECRUITING POSTERS. WAIT TILL THE DOLLS IN TOKYO GET A LOAD OF US!
YEAH!
NO GAL IN HER RIGHT MIND COULD RESIST THESE UNIFORMS!
HEY!
MY CLEAN UNIFORM!
KATE! YOU JEALOUS FEMALE!
SOMETHING WRONG, BOYS?
WRONG? THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER WISHED A WOMAN IN THIS THEATRE WERE A MAN!
DITTO!


WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO CHANGE OUR UNIFORMS! WE'D MISS OUR BUS TO TOKYO!
WE CAN'T GO LOOKING LIKE THIS, WE'D BE THE ANSWER TO AN MP'S PRAYER.
SHE SURE SPIKED OUR WAGONS! LET'S BOYCOTT HER!

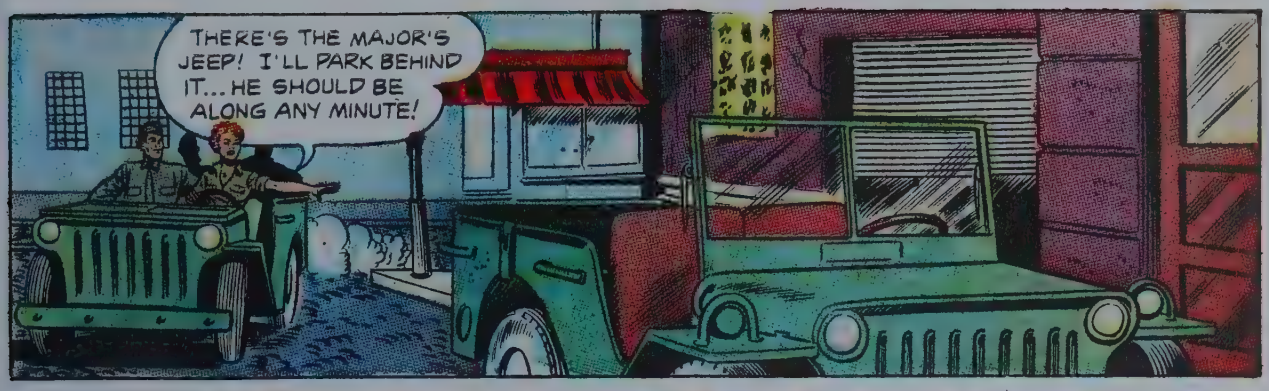
BOYCOTT ME AND YOU BOYCOTT YOURSELF OUT OF A RIDE TO TOKYO!
YOU BOYS COULD STILL CHANGE INTO CLEAN UNIFORMS AND GET A LIFT!
KATE! OUR BUDDY!
OUR FAVORITE G-F!

FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER...
WELL, HERE WE ARE, YOU LUCKY GIRL!
NAIL DOWN THE PAGODAS! TOKYO, HERE WE COME!

WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO TOKYO WITH A MONTH'S PAY TO BLOW-O-O AI-AI-AI-AI...
WHY'RE YOU GOING TO TOKYO, KATE?
THE MAJOR'S STUCK THERE. HE LOST THE KEYS, TO HIS JEEP!

AND YOU'RE RESCUING HIM, HUH?

RIGHT! I'M TAKING THE EXTRA SET OF KEYS TO HIM!
STAY IN! THEN WE CAN ALL GO BACK TO CAMP TOGETHER.


THERE'S THE MAJOR'S JEEP! I'LL PARK BEHIND IT... HE SHOULD BE ALONG ANY MINUTE!

THANKS FOR THE LIFT, KATE!
WE'LL MEET YOU HERE TONIGHT.
HEY! POP YOUR PUPILS AT THOSE EAGER-BEAVER MP'S EXAMINING PASSES.
I HOPE YOU HAVE YOURS.

DID YOU THINK I'D LEAVE IT HOME ON THE PIANO? UH-UH! I'VE WAITED TOO LONG FOR THIS PASS!
GOOD! JUST FLIP IT UNDER THEIR NOSES!

KATE! IT ISN'T HERE! IT'S GONE!

I KNOW I HAD IT! I... JIMINY! COULD I HAVE LEFT IT IN MY OTHER UNIFORM?

NO-O. I PUT IT IN A SAFE PLACE SO I WOULDN'T LOSE IT! BUT WHERE?
THIS IS NO TIME FOR A MEMORY COURSE! HERE COME THE MP'S!

QUICK! DUCK INTO THIS SHOP!
COSTUMES
THEY'VE SPOTTED US!

'MERICANS ALWAYS IN A HURRY-SCURRY!
WISH TO MAKE PURCHASE, PLEASE?
IN HERE, AL... A CURTAINED DRESSING ROOM!

LIE LOW WHILE I SHAKE OFF THE MP'S!
DIDN'T YOU COME IN HERE WITH A MARINE, LADY?
WE WANT TO CHECK HIS PASS.
COSTUMES
MP
MP
MP
WIG $2,000

A MARINE? WITH ME? OH, NO!
C'MON GEORGE! WE'LL LOOK AROUND!
AND IF SHE'S LYING...

AW, YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME, FELLOWS! WHY DON'T WE GO SOMEPLACE AND TALK?
YEAH! MAYBE WE MADE A MISTAKE, GEORGE!

WE WERE JUST GOING OFF DUTY ANYWAY!
HEY, THE CURTAIN'S MOVING! SOMEBODY'S IN THAT DRESSING ROOM!
I DON'T SEE ANYTHING!

ER- SORRY, MISS. WE THOUGHT YOU WERE A BLINKING LEATHERNECK.
NO! NO! ME SING-SONG GIRL! TRA-LA-LA!♫

GEORGE, I HAVE A PEACHY IDEA. WHY DON'T THE FOUR OF US GO OUT TOGETHER?
SWELL! I'LL TAKE THE SING-SONG DAME, AND YOU TAKE THE BLONDE DOLL!
NO LIKE IDEA!
MP

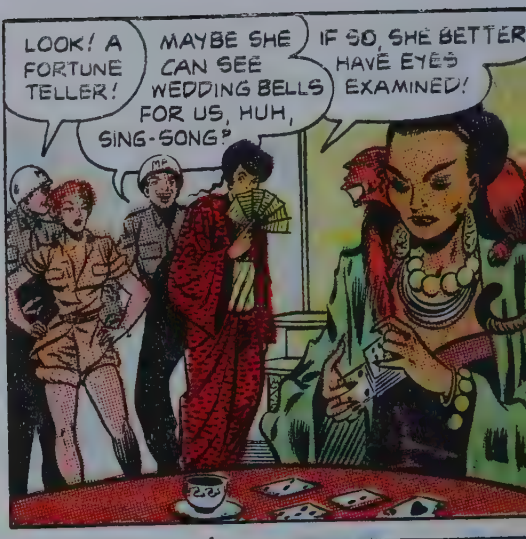
OF COURSE SHE'LL GO WITH US!

MONA KIMONA! THERE'S AL'S CAP ON THE CHAIR! IF THE MP'S SEE THAT, THE JIG'S UP! I'VE GOT TO GET THEM OUT OF HERE!
DON'T BE COY, LITTLE BUTTERFLY!
MP

KATE, YOU'RE BEGGING FOR TROUBLE! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
YOU LEFT YOUR HAT IN THE DRESSING ROOM! I HAD TO GET THE MP'S OUT OF THE SHOP BEFORE THEY SPOTTED IT!
MP

NO SECRETS, GIRLS! WE'RE READY TO DO THE TOWN!
MAYBE YOU AND I CAN SLIP OUT ON THE OTHERS AND BE ALONE!
THE BIG GORILLA!
MP
MP

AND WITH TWO AMOROUS MP'S FOR ESCORTS, KATE AND AL SPEND THE DAY SEEING TOKYO...
YOU GOTTA GET ME OUTA THIS, KATE! THE GUY ONLY WANTS TO NECK--AND HE HAS A DARN TOUGH BEARD!
LET'S HEAD FOR THE TEA SHOP!
MP


LOOK! A FORTUNE TELLER!
MAYBE SHE CAN SEE WEDDING BELLS FOR US, HUH, SING-SONG?
IF SO, SHE BETTER HAVE EYES EXAMINED!
MP

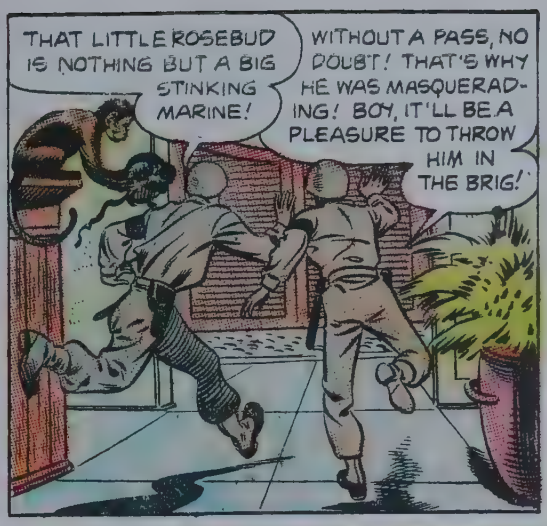
WILL YOU READ OUR TEA LEAVES, MA'AM?
JUST FOR LAUGHS?
TEA LEAVES ALL TIME TELL TRUTH!

FIRST READ SING-SONG GIRL'S FUTURE. HMM! SEE CORPORAL GROW SUDDENLY COLD TO HER. HATE HER ONE HUNDRED PERCENT!
NEVER! YOU'RE NUTS!
MP
MP

WAIT! THERE'S MORE!
SING-SONG GIRL MUST LEAVE! NO WISH TO STAY AND BE HATED!
YEAH! WE HAVE TO GO! YOU'RE JUST NOT HER DISH OF TEA, CORPORAL!
MP

OF ALL THE BLASTED LUCK! JUST WHEN I WAS MAKING PROGRESS!
THERE THEY GO--OUT OF OUR LIVES FOREVER!
MP

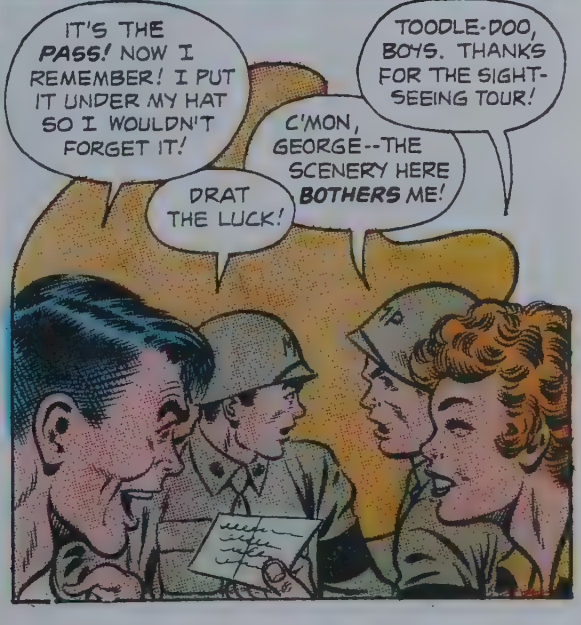
DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?
THAT SING-SONG GIRL HAS A GI HAIRCUT!
TAKE IT EASY, AL! JUST WALK OUT LIKE A LADY!

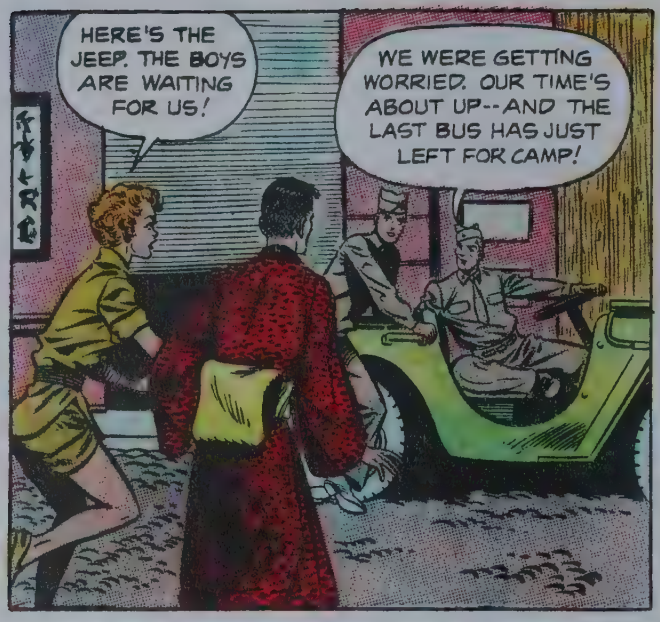

THAT LITTLE ROSEBUD IS NOTHING BUT A BIG STINKING MARINE!
WITHOUT A PASS, NO DOUBT! THAT'S WHY HE WAS MASQUERADING! BOY, IT'LL BE A PLEASURE TO THROW HIM IN THE BRIG!

YIPE! HERE COMES TROUBLE AGAIN!
AL! YOU LOST YOUR WIG!

WHERE'S YOUR PASS, WISE GUY? PRODUCE YOUR PASS PRONTO OR IT'S THE BRIG FOR YOU!
I'VE GOT IT, HONEST! I-I JUST MISLAID IT!

YEAH? EVERYBODY HAS THE SAME STORY. THIS IS THE SWEETEST PINCH OF MY CAREER!
THAT GOES DOUBLE FOR ME!
AL--WHAT'S THAT PIECE OF PAPER ON YOUR HEAD?


IT'S THE PASS! NOW I REMEMBER! I PUT IT UNDER MY HAT SO I WOULDN'T FORGET IT!
TOODLE-DOO, BOYS. THANKS FOR THE SIGHT-SEEING TOUR!
C'MON, GEORGE--THE SCENERY HERE BOTHERS ME!
DRAT THE LUCK!

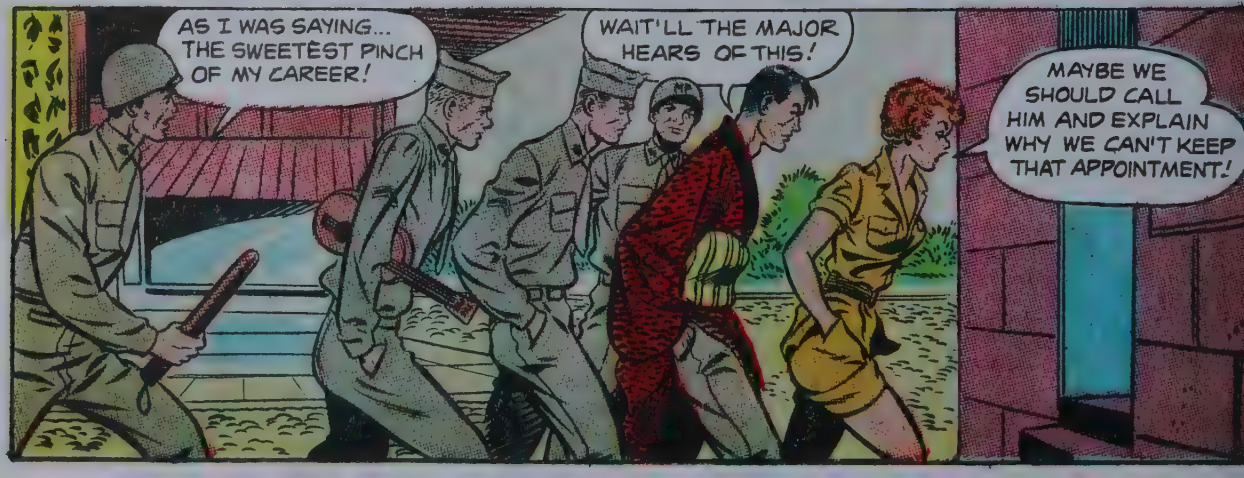

HERE'S THE JEEP. THE BOYS ARE WAITING FOR US!
WE WERE GETTING WORRIED. OUR TIME'S ABOUT UP--AND THE LAST BUS HAS JUST LEFT FOR CAMP!

OH, GOOD HEAVENS, MAJOR! I FORGOT ALL ABOUT YOU!
WELL, I DIDN'T FO GET ABOUT YOU! I'VE BEEN SITTING HERE ONE SOLID DAY... WHA KEPT YOU AND WHAT IS PRIVATE BROWN DOING OUT OF UNIFORM ?

ER-- WE RAN INTO A LITTLE TROUBLE.
YES, SIR-- DOUBLE-TROUBLE!
GIVE ME THOSE KEYS! I'LL DEAL WITH YOU TWO LATER! REPORT TO ME AT CAMP WITHIN THE HOUR!

HEY--LOOK! OUR MP FRIENDS! HA-HA! I BET THEY'D LIKE TO SEE US OVER-STAY OUR LEAVE!
BOY! WAS HE SORE!
LET'S NOT GIVE 'EM THE THRILL! PILE IN!

B-BUT--! I PUT THE MAJOR'S KEYS ON MY KEY-RING...AND I GA HIM THE WHOLE WORK
BETTER START ROLLIN', KATE! THOSE MP'S ARE STILL HANGING AROUND!
Y-YOU'RE KIDDING!

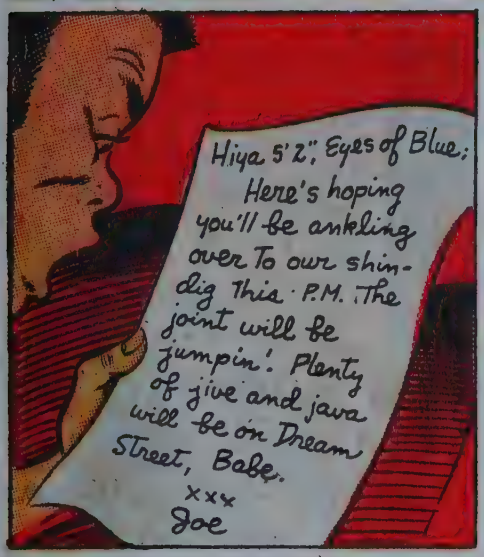

AS I WAS SAYING... THE SWEETEST PINCH OF MY CAREER!
WAIT'LL THE MAJOR HEARS OF THIS!
MAYBE WE SHOULD CALL HIM AND EXPLAIN WHY WE CAN'T KEEP THAT APPOINTMENT!

Canteen KATE in Party Line
SECRET MEETING? IN MY KITCHEN? OUT OF MY WAY, SMALL CHANGE! I'M GOING TO INVESTIGATE THIS!
VERY SORRY, MISSY KATE! LEATHER-NECKS GAVE ME TEN YEN TO KEEP YOU OUT!
SECRET MEETING
NO ADMITTANCE
ESPECIALLY
CANTEEN KATE
DO NOT ENTER
ARINES ONLY!
HANDLE WITH CARE
OF ALL THE NERVE! NO MARINE IS GOING TO KEEP ANY SECRETS FROM ME! I'LL GO AROUND TO THE BACK!
IT'S GONNA BE A SWELL PARTY! WE'LL INVITE ANN AND MARGIE--
...AND DON'T FORGET JANET!
LET'S BREAK UP THIS MEETING BEFORE KATE FINDS OUT ABOUT IT!
SO! THEY'RE TOSSING A PARTY AND THEY'RE NOT ASKING ME!

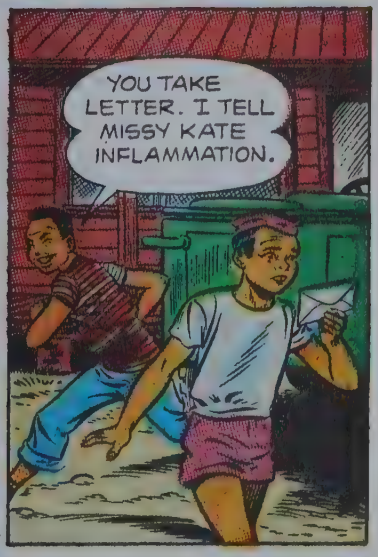
I'LL JUST DROP A LITTLE HINT THAT I'M MAD!
HEY, KATE! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
GEE! NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT--NOT A THING... TONIGHT! ANY SUGGESTIONS?
WHY NOT READ A BOOK?
OR LEARN HOW TO CARRY GLASSES ON A TRAY!
HMPH! I'M GOING TO THAT PARTY WHETHER THEY LIKE IT OR NOT!
OH, SMALL CHANGE... ♫ WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO A LITTLE FAVOR FOR ME. ♪
HOW MUCH, MISSY KATE?
TWENTY YEN IF YOU FIND OUT WHERE THE BOYS ARE THROWING THE PARTY!
SMALL CHANGE WILL DO... IN VERY CLEVER WAY!
NO DOUBT MARINE WISHES TO INVITE GIRL FRIEND TO PARTY TONIGHT?. ME VERREE HAPPY TO DELIVER A MESSAGE FOR YOU!
SAY-- THAT'S A SWELL IDEA! WAIT A MINUTE, KID!

HERE IT IS, BUT MAKE SURE NO ONE ELSE READS IT!
OKEE-DOKEE!

BUSINESS VERY GOOD TODAY, TOLEDO! SMALL CHANGE MAKE PLENTEE BIG CHANGE.


Hiya 5'2", Eyes of Blue;
Here's hoping you'll be ankling over To our shindig this P.M. The joint will be jumpin'! Plenty of jive and java will be on Dream Street, Babe.
xxx
Joe

VERREE STRANGE LETTER! MUST BE SECRET CODE!
HONORABLE PAL IS MOST IGNORANT. THIS IS AMERICAN SLANG. VERREE EASY TO UNDER-STAND!


YOU TAKE LETTER. I TELL MISSY KATE INFLAMMATION.

BIG PARTY ON 52 DREAM STREET!
SMALL CHANGE, YOU'RE A WONDER!

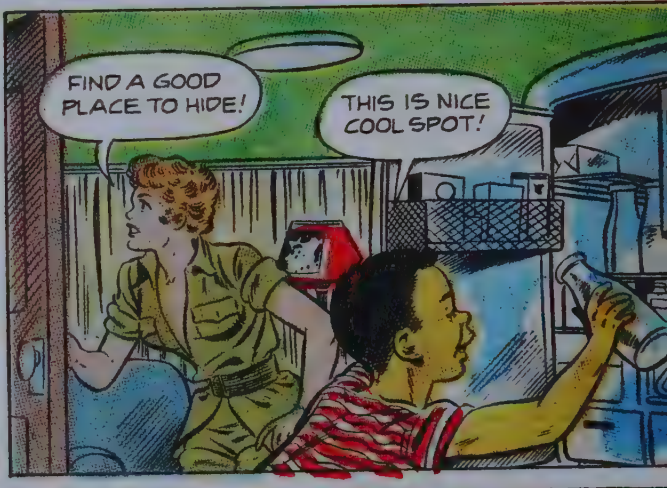
WE'LL HAVE TO HURRY! I WANT TO GET THERE BEFORE THE CROWD ARRIVES! THEY'LL GET THE SURPRISE OF THEIR LIVES!

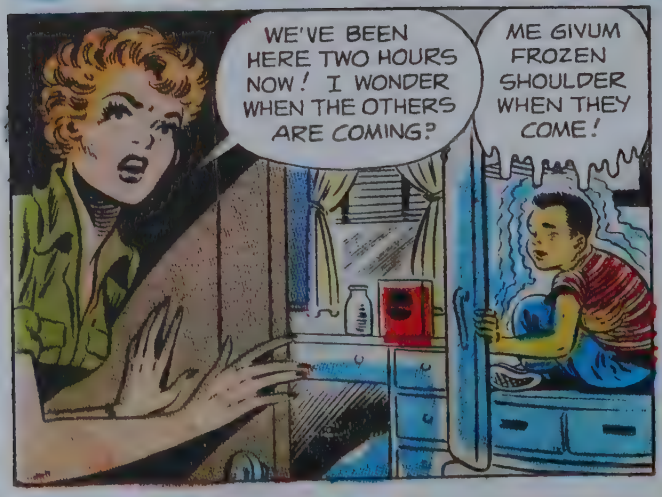
DREAM STREET IS WAY OVER ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN. ARE YOU SURE YOU READ THAT NOTE RIGHT?
THIS HUMBLE ONE READS AMERICAN REAL HEP!

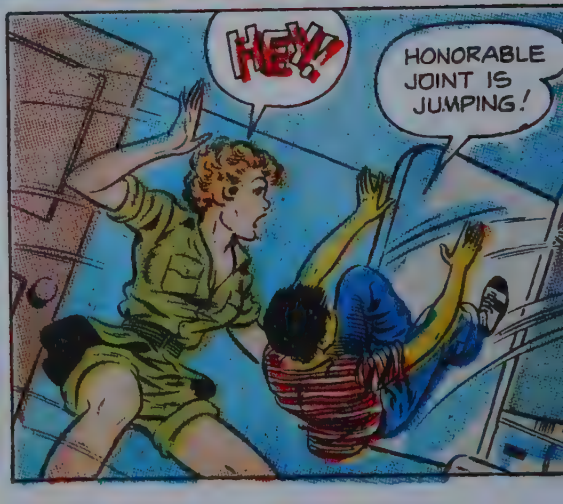
THIS IS STREET, MISSY KATE!
I CAN'T SEE A THING!
DREAM STREET

HERE IT IS!
52

LOOK! WE'RE THE FIRST ONES HERE!


FIND A GOOD PLACE TO HIDE!
THIS IS NICE COOL SPOT!


WE'VE BEEN HERE TWO HOURS NOW! I WONDER WHEN THE OTHERS ARE COMING?
ME GIVUM FROZEN SHOULDER WHEN THEY COME!

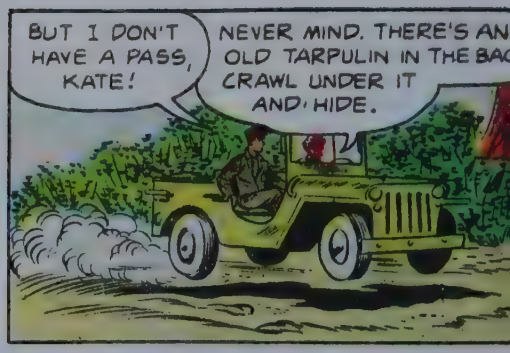

HEY!
HONORABLE JOINT IS JUMPING!

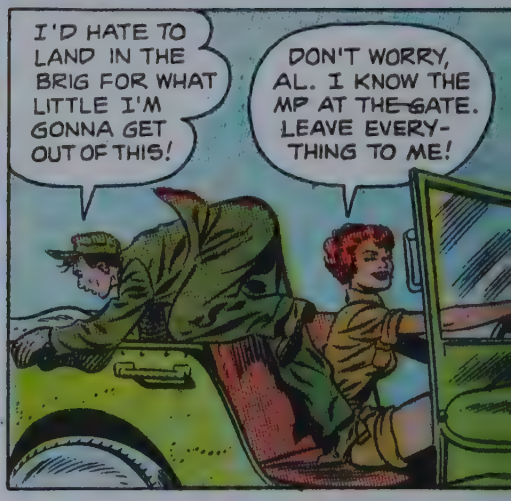
IT MUST BE ONE OF THOSE JAPANESE EARTHQUAKES!
I LOOK-SEE!
EARTH NOT QUAKING, BUT EVERYTHING SURE MOVING BY, PLENTEE FAST!
¡GULP! SMALL CHANGE! W-WE'RE IN A TRAILER!
JUMP FOR YOUR LIFE!
AND THAT DAWN...
THIS IS A FINE TIME TO COME ROLLING IN, KATE!
YEAH! AFTER WE WENT AND THREW A SURPRISE PARTY FOR YOU AT THE CANTEEN LAST NIGHT!
F--FOR ME? BOYS YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW HARD I TRIED TO MAKE IT!

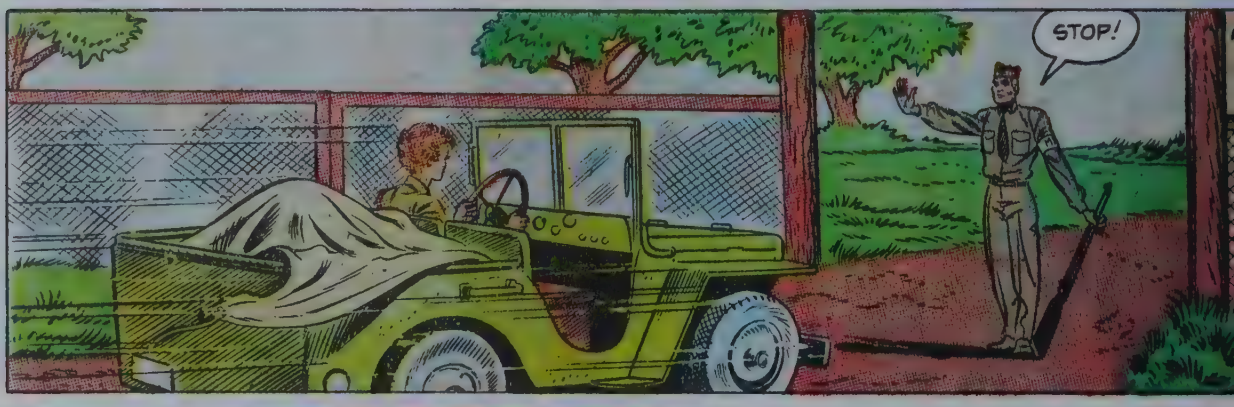
Canteen KATE in Power of the Press

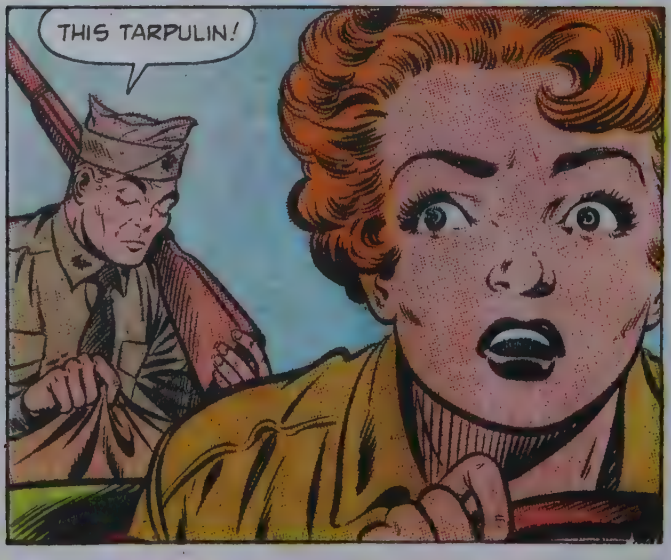
AL COME QUICK! I'VE GOT A STORY FOR YOUR CAMP NEWSPAPER!
IT WAS NEWS THE FIRST TIME! THIS IS YOUR FOURTH GREASE FIRE THIS WEEK, KATE.
WELL, I TRIED HARD.
THANKS FOR THE EFFORT! BUT I NEED A NEWS STORY!
C'MON, AL! I'LL HELP YOU FIND ONE!

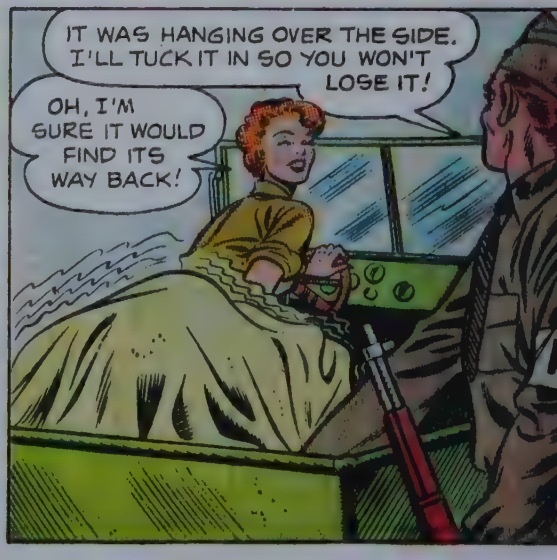
I'VE ALREADY TURNED THIS CAMP INSIDE OUT. BUT ANYTHING WORTH WRITING ABOUT IS LABELED CONFIDENTIAL!
THEN WE'LL LOOK OUTSIDE THE CAMP.

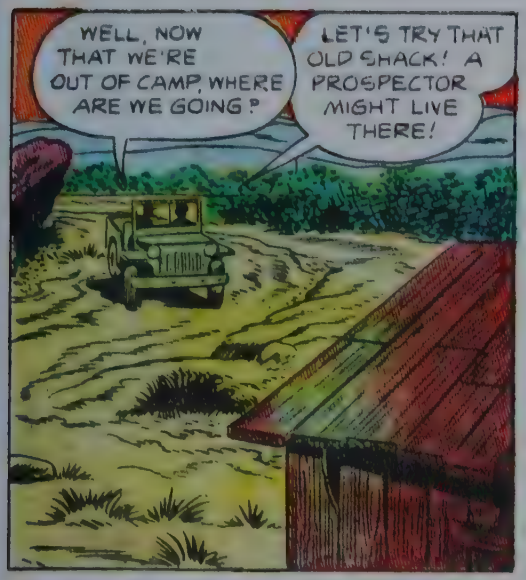

BUT I DON'T HAVE A PASS, KATE!
NEVER MIND. THERE'S AN OLD TARPULIN IN THE BAC CRAWL UNDER IT AND HIDE.

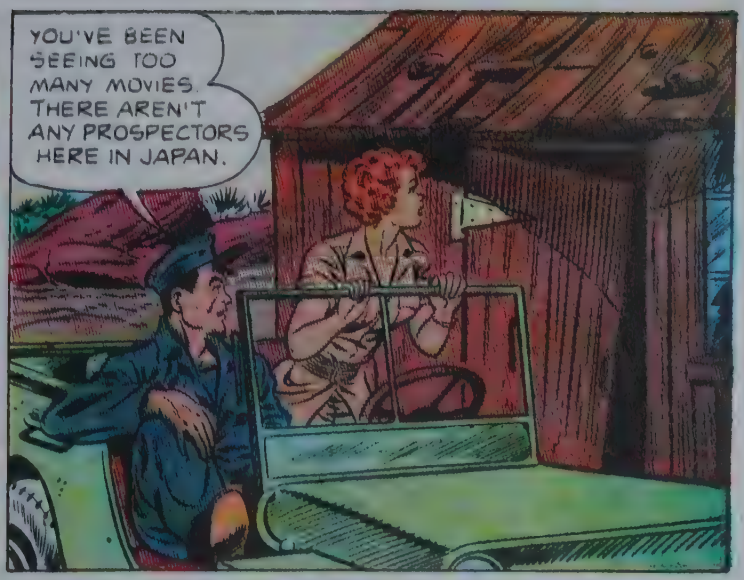

I'D HATE TO LAND IN THE BRIG FOR WHAT LITTLE I'M GONNA GET OUT OF THIS!
DON'T WORRY, AL. I KNOW THE MP AT THE GATE. LEAVE EVERY-THING TO ME!


STOP!

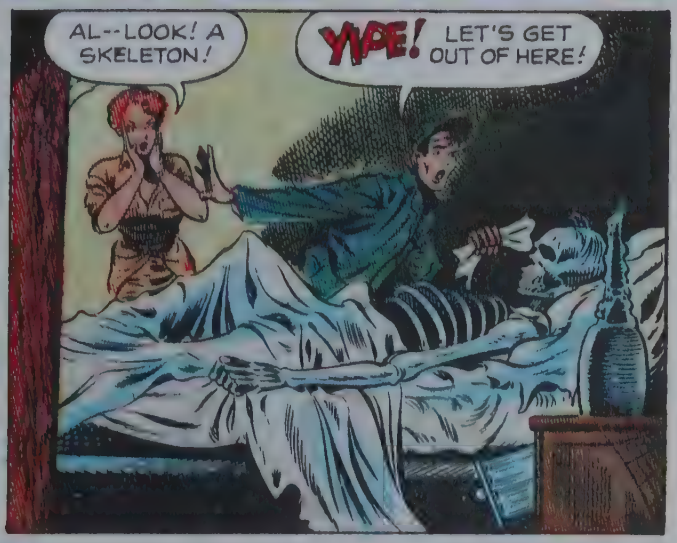

THIS TARPULIN!


IT WAS HANGING OVER THE SIDE. I'LL TUCK IT IN SO YOU WON'T LOSE IT!
OH, I'M SURE IT WOULD FIND ITS WAY BACK!


WELL, NOW THAT WE'RE OUT OF CAMP, WHERE ARE WE GOING?
LET'S TRY THAT OLD SHACK! A PROSPECTOR MIGHT LIVE THERE!


YOU'VE BEEN SEEING TOO MANY MOVIES. THERE AREN'T ANY PROSPECTORS HERE IN JAPAN.

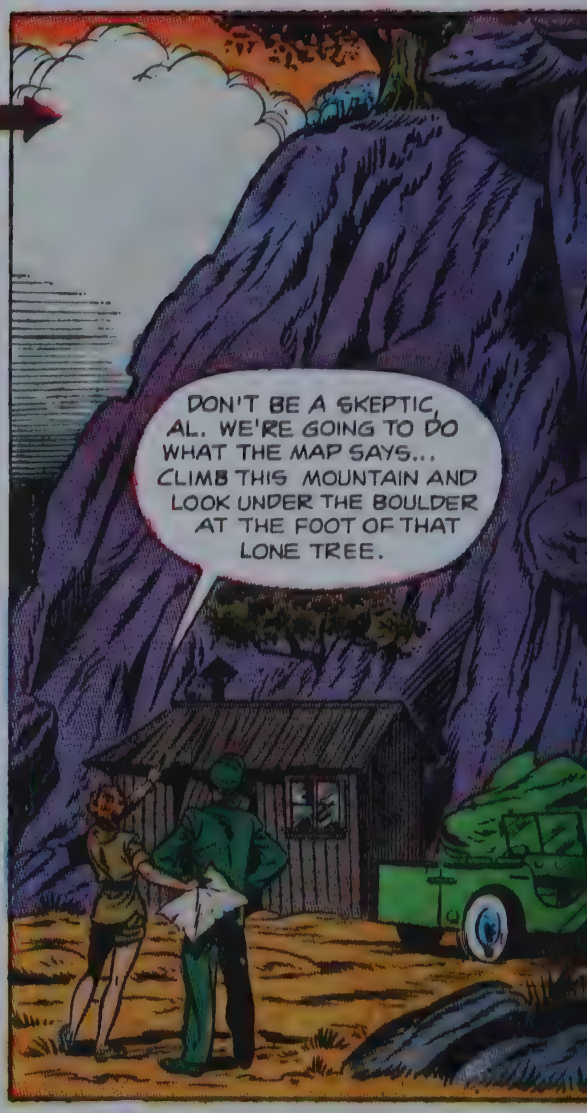
C'MON BACK, KATE. THERE'S NO NEWS IN THERE.


AL--LOOK! A SKELETON!
YIPE! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

H-HE'S CLUTCHING AN OLD MAP IN HIS HAND!
I CAN GET ALL THE MAPS I WANT FROM THE AAA. LET'S GET GOING.

IT'S A TREASURE MAP, AL! IT SHOWS THE LOCATION OF BURIED GOLD.
YOU SURE IT ISN'T A MAP OF FORT KNOX?

WHAT A STORY FOR THE NEWSPAPER WHEN WE FIND THE BURIED TREASURE!
YOU DON'T REALLY BELIEVE THAT THING, DO YOU, KATE?


DON'T BE A SKEPTIC, AL. WE'RE GOING TO DO WHAT THE MAP SAYS... CLIMB THIS MOUNTAIN AND LOOK UNDER THE BOULDER AT THE FOOT OF THAT LONE TREE.

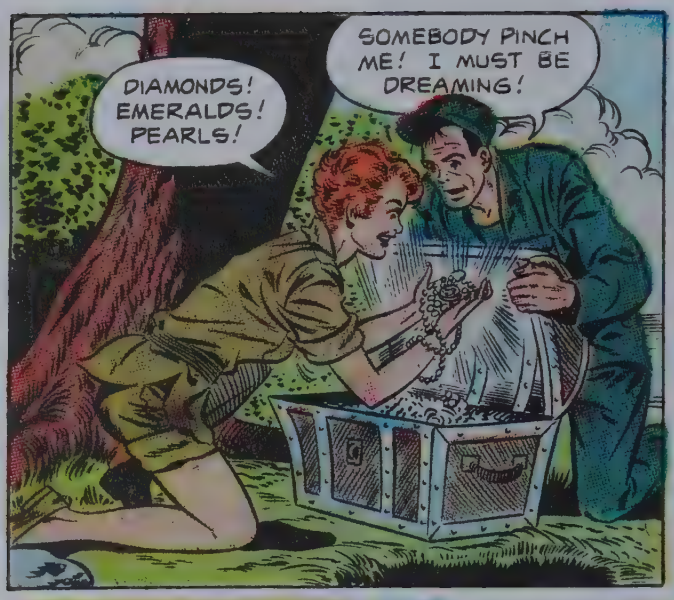
JUST KEEP THINKING OF WHAT'S IN STORE FOR US AT THE TOP!
THAT THOUGHT'S TOO DISILLUSIONING.

WATCH YOUR STEP, AL! THERE ARE LOTS OF LOOSE ROCKS AROUND.
YOU'RE TELLING ME! WHAT I NEED RIGHT NOW IS A CATCHER'S MASK!

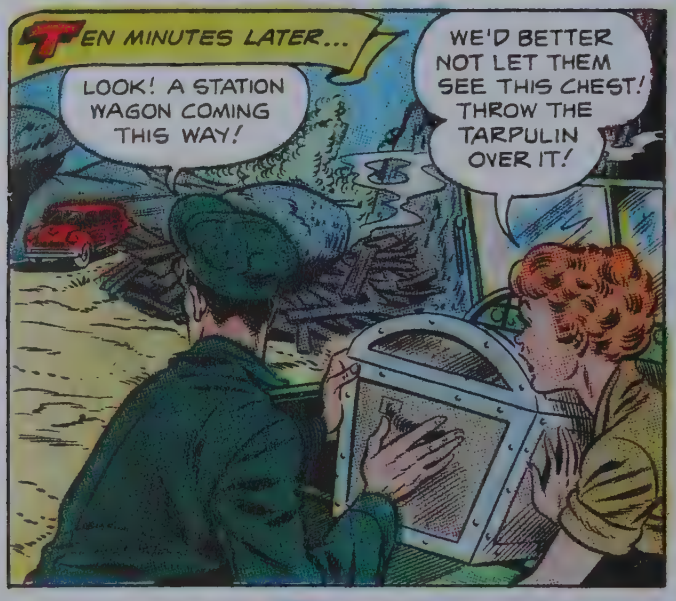
HERE WE ARE!

COME ON, AL! HELP ME PUSH THIS BOULDER!

THE BOULDER! IT'S MOVING!
UGH! THERE BETTER BE A STORY UNDER IT!!
LOOK -- IT'S HEADED RIGHT FOR THE OLD SHACK!
WELL, THAT'S THE END OF THE SHACK!
NO ONE WILL MISS IT!
LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT HOLE!
I FEEL SOMETHING. GIVE ME A HAND, AL!
THE TREASURE CHEST!
I-I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!


DIAMONDS! EMERALDS! PEARLS!
SOMEBODY PINCH ME! I MUST BE DREAMING!

OUCH! YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO PINCH SO HARD!
I'M SO EXCITED! LET'S GET THIS DO TO THE JEEP!


TEN MINUTES LATER...
LOOK! A STATION WAGON COMING THIS WAY!
WE'D BETTER NOT LET THEM SEE THIS CHEST! THROW THE TARPULIN OVER IT!

WHAT HAPPENED TO HONORABLE SHACK?
WHERE DID BOULDER DESCEND FROM?

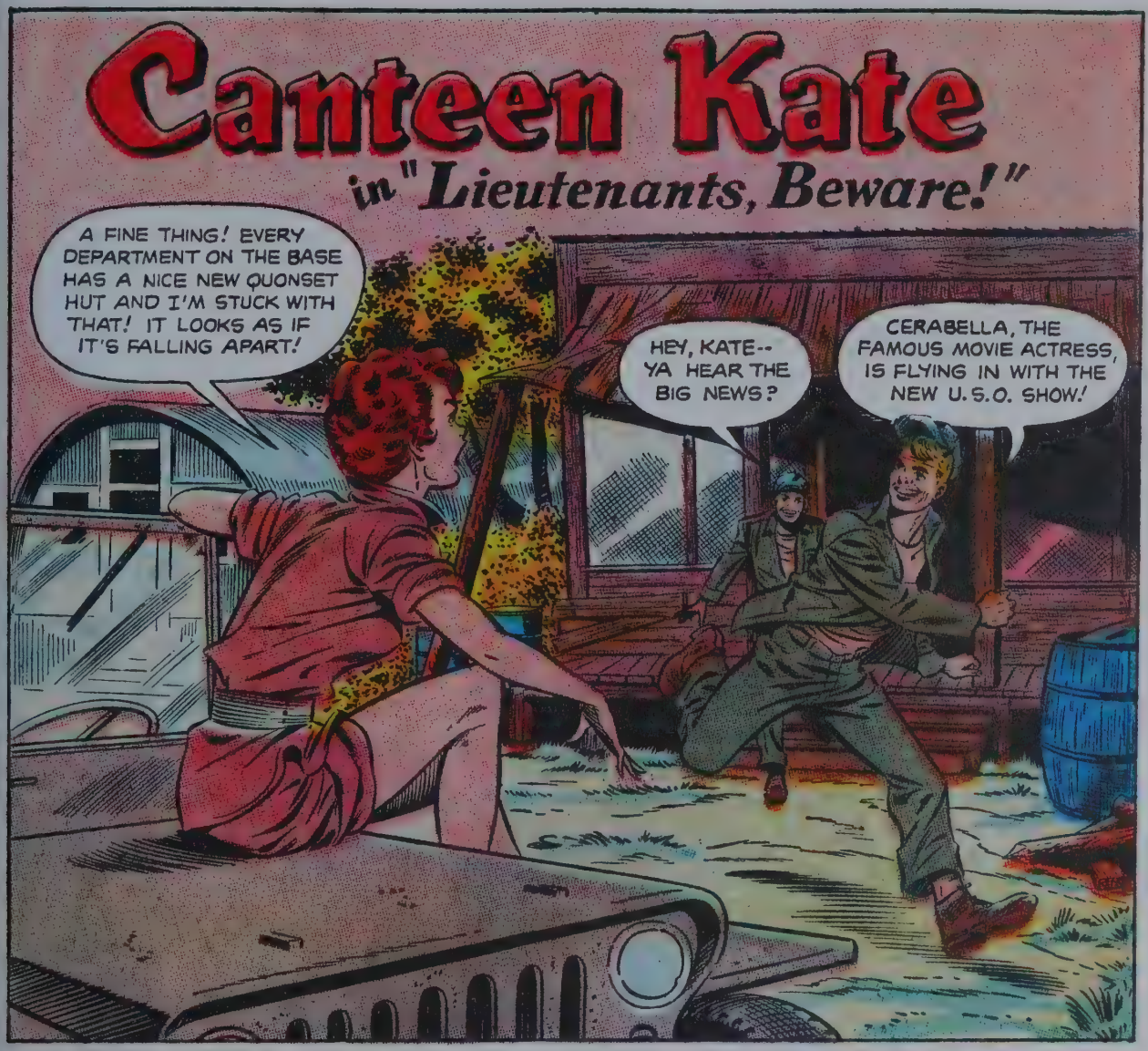
LOOK, LIN SEE! THEY PUSHED IT DOWN THE MOUNTAINSIDE!
THEN THEY HAVE THE TREASURE CHEST!
STEP ON IT, KATE!

HURRY! THOSE MADMEN ARE FOLLOWING US!
NEVER MIND, AL! I KNOW ALL THE SHORT-CUTS!

WHAT'S THE MATTER? WE'RE STOPPING!
UH-OH! I FORGOT TO PUT GAS IN THE JEEP!
COME, SUN FANG, WE MAKE THEM HAND OVER THE TREASURE!
AND MAKE THEM SORRY FOR DESTROYING SHACK WE JUST BUILT!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU JUST BUILT? THAT SHACK MUST HAVE BEEN A HUNDRED YEARS OLD!
NO, IT WASN'T!
WE ARE SET DESIGNERS FOR JAPANESE MOVIE COMPANY-- MAKING BIG WESTERN.
MOVIE? YOU MEAN THAT SKELETON AND MAP WERE JUST PROPS?
741-J
YES--AND SO WAS FAKE JEWELRY!
WE HAD THE SET ALL READY FOR SHOOTING.
WE'LL LET BYGONES BE BYGONES IF YOU'LL GIVE US SOME GAS...
NO!
TWO HOURS AND TEN WEARY, FOOTSORE MILES LATER...
PRIVATE BROWN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT OF CAMP WITHOUT A PASS? YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
DON'T WORRY, AL! I'LL WRITE UP THE STORY!

Canteen Kate

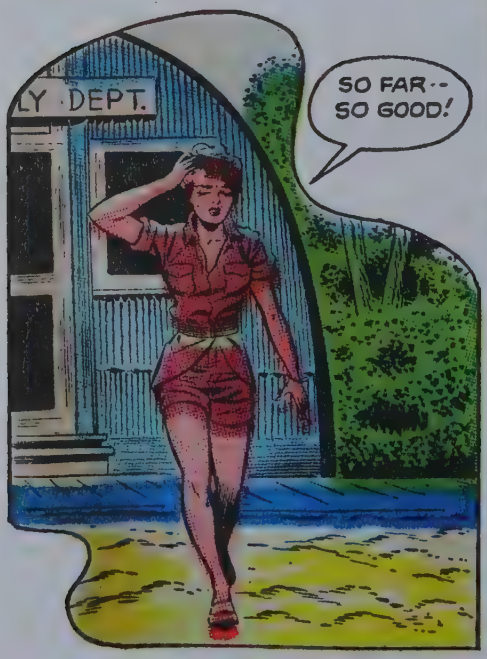
in "Lieutenants, Beware!"


A FINE THING! EVERY DEPARTMENT ON THE BASE HAS A NICE NEW QUONSET HUT AND I'M STUCK WITH THAT! IT LOOKS AS IF IT'S FALLING APART!
HEY, KATE-- YA HEAR THE BIG NEWS?
CERABELLA, THE FAMOUS MOVIE ACTRESS, IS FLYING IN WITH THE NEW U.S.O. SHOW!

HMM... THIS CALLS FOR STRATEGY!

LIEUTENANT-- HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO PERSONALLY MEET CERABELLA?
WOULD I EVER? WHAT'S THE PITCH?

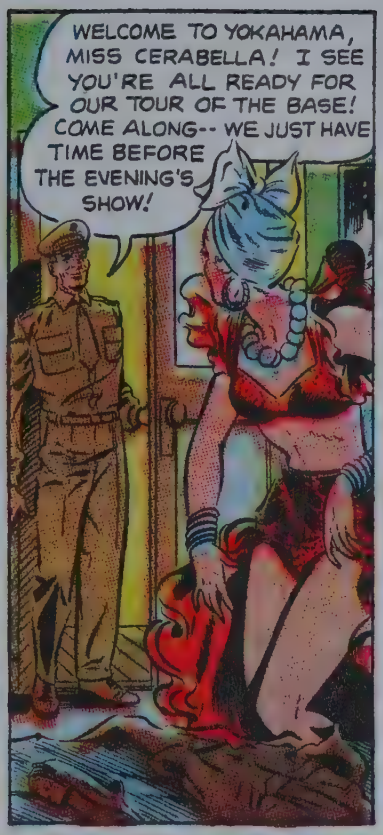
IN EXCHANGE FOR ONE NEW QUONSET, I WILL PERSONALLY INTRODUCE YOU!
YOU JUST MADE YOURSELF A DEAL, SISTER!

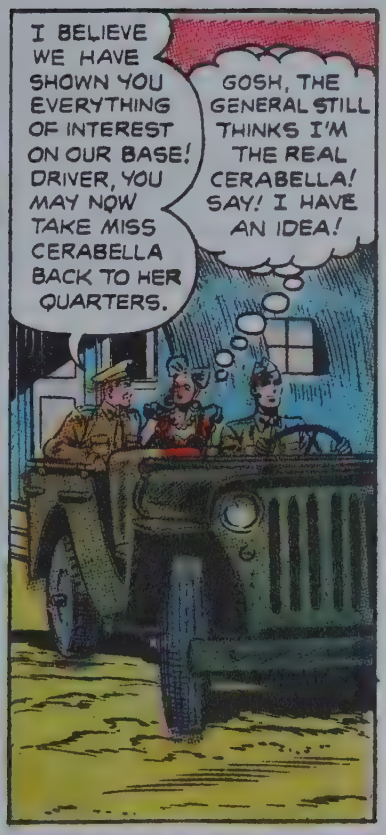

LY DEPT.
SO FAR-- SO GOOD!

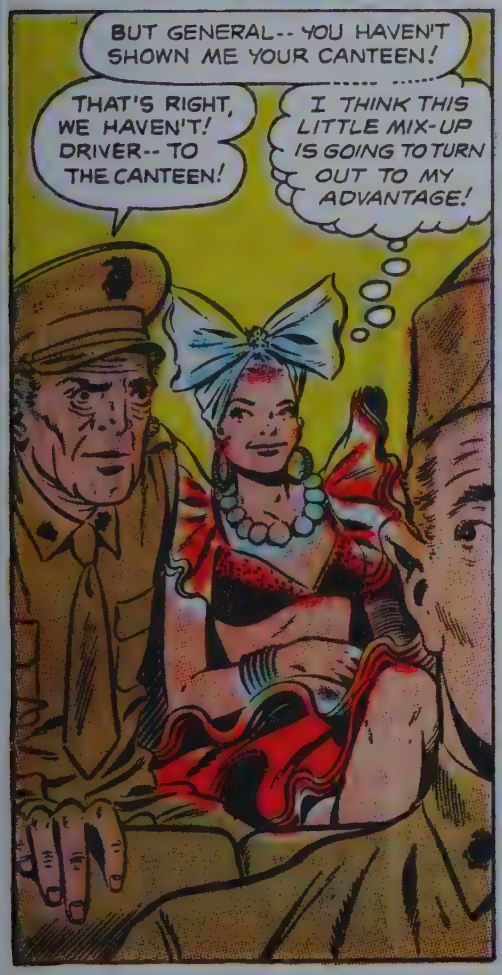
THIS IS WHERE THE U.S.O. TROUPES ALWAYS STAY! I'LL JUST MARCH RIGHT IN AND ASK CERA-BELLA POINT BLANK!
VISITORS' QUARTERS

SHE'S OUT, BUT-- GEE! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL GOWN! I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT SINCE I LEFT THE STATES!

I'M SURE SHE WOULDN'T MIND IF I SLIPPED IT ON FOR JUST A SECOND!
OMIGOSH! I DON'T LOOK LIKE MYSELF ANYMORE!


WELCOME TO YOKAHAMA, MISS CERABELLA! I SEE YOU'RE ALL READY FOR OUR TOUR OF THE BASE! COME ALONG-- WE JUST HAVE TIME BEFORE THE EVENING'S SHOW!

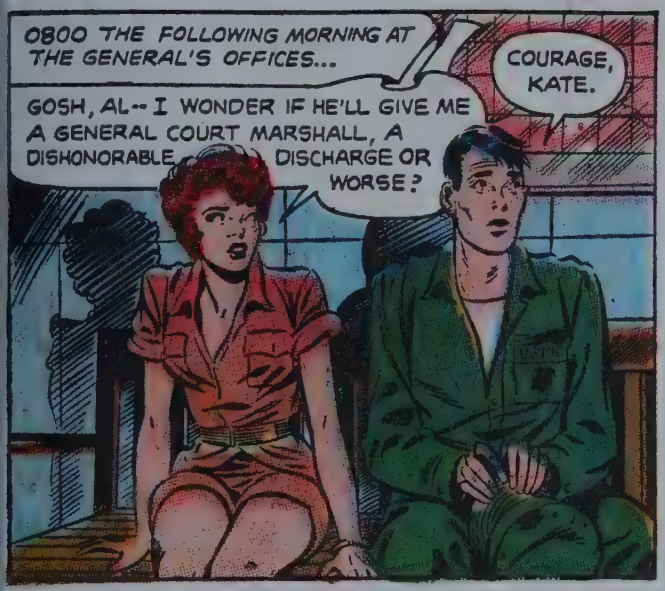

I BELIEVE WE HAVE SHOWN YOU EVERYTHING OF INTEREST ON OUR BASE! DRIVER, YOU MAY NOW TAKE MISS CERABELLA BACK TO HER QUARTERS.
GOSH, THE GENERAL STILL THINKS I'M THE REAL CERABELLA! SAY! I HAVE AN IDEA!


BUT GENERAL-- YOU HAVEN'T SHOWN ME YOUR CANTEEN!
THAT'S RIGHT, WE HAVEN'T! DRIVER-- TO THE CANTEEN!
I THINK THIS LITTLE MIX-UP IS GOING TO TURN OUT TO MY ADVANTAGE!

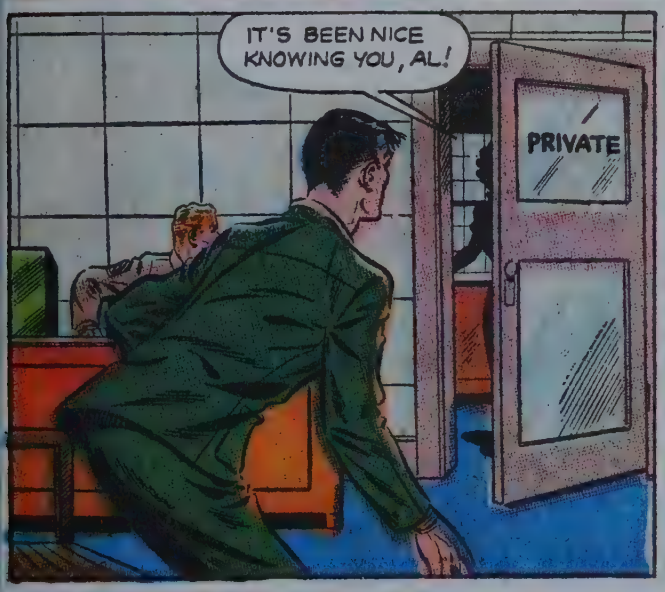
GOOD HEAVENS, GENERAL! THAT BUILDING IS A DISGRACE TO YOUR BASE! YOU SHOULD HAVE A NEW QUONSET RIGHT AWAY!
BY JOVE, MISS CERABELLA, YOU'RE RIGHT! I'LL--

SO THERE YOU ARE, MISS CANTEEN KATE! IF YOU'RE THROUGH MASQUERADING, I'D LIKE TO GET INTO MY COSTUME FOR TONIGHT'S SHOW!
I'VE BEEN DUPED! YOUNG LADY, REPORT TO MY OFFICE AT 0800 IN THE MORNING!

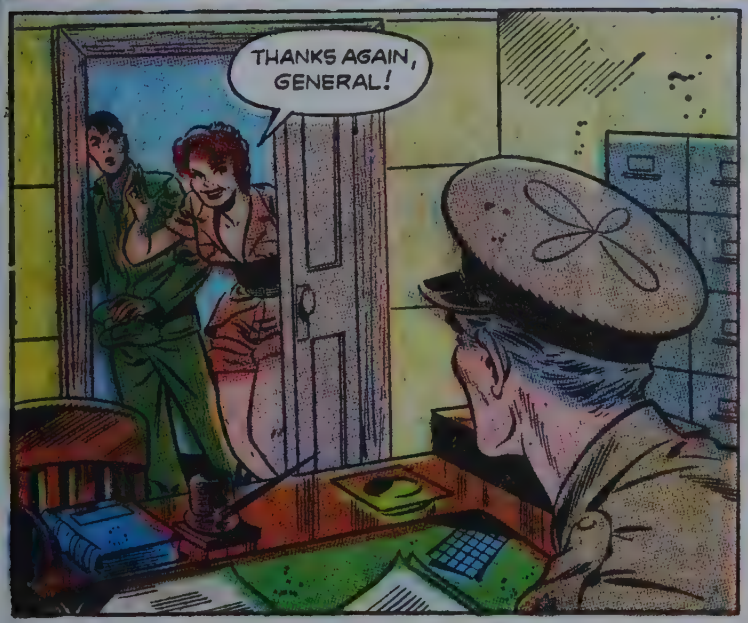
WELL, GET GOING!... FIND A JEEP TO TAKE ME TO THE CAMP THEATRE!
GOSH, I'LL NEVER GET A NEW QUONSET NOW! EVERYBODY'S MAD AT ME... EXCEPT...
...LIEUTENANT PHILIPS!
HURRY OVER, LIEUTENANT! CERABELLA'S HERE NOW! YOU CAN MEET HER AND DRIVE US TO THE SHOW!
G-GOSH, MISS CERABELLA, YOU'RE EVEN PRETTIER THAN YOUR PICTURES!
BETTER KEEP ONE EYE ON THE ROAD!
PHOOEY, I CAN LOOK AT THE ROAD ANY TIME! BESIDES, I KNOW THIS ROAD AS WELL AS THE MARINE HANDBOOK!
OOPS!
HELP!
HA-HA!
BRAVO!
THE BOYS SEEM TO THINK THIS IS PART OF YOUR ACT, CEREBELLA!


0800 THE FOLLOWING MORNING AT THE GENERAL'S OFFICES...
COURAGE, KATE.
GOSH, AL-- I WONDER IF HE'LL GIVE ME A GENERAL COURT MARSHALL, A DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE OR WORSE?

THE GENERAL WILL SEE YOU NOW.
GOOD LUCK!


IT'S BEEN NICE KNOWING YOU, AL!
PRIVATE

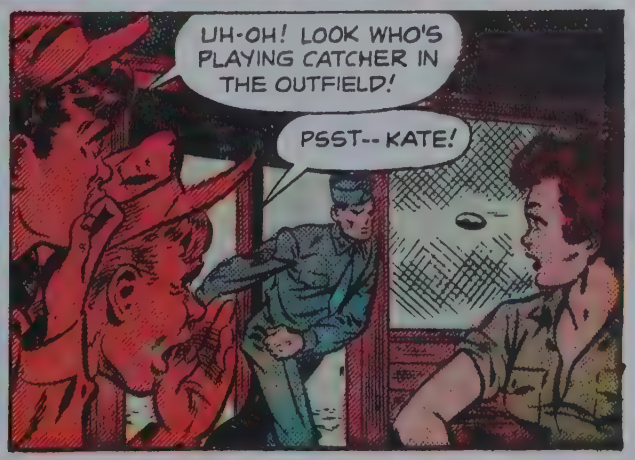
30 MINUTES LATER...
GEE, AL, THE GENERAL WASN'T MAD AT ALL! HE'S EVEN GETTING ME A NEW HUT! I JUST TOOK THE BULL BY THE HORNS AND I EXPLAINED THE WHOLE THING IN A BUSINESS-LIKE FASHION.


THANKS AGAIN, GENERAL!

DON'T MENTION IT!

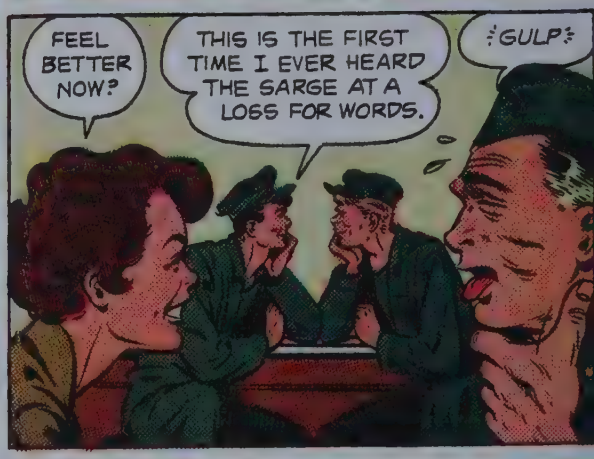
Canteen Kate

in "The Old Ball Game"



WHATTA CATCH!
YOU SAID A MOUTHFUL!
TIME TO PAUSE FOR STATION IDENTIFICATION!

HAR ! GULP ! UGH!
EASY, SERGEANT! IT'S ONLY A JELLY DONUT!


FEEL BETTER NOW?
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I EVER HEARD THE SARGE AT A LOSS FOR WORDS.
! GULP !

AWRIGHT, YOU GUYS! CAN THE CHATTER! AND WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, BROWN? YOU'RE SUPPOSE TO BE CLEANING THE GROUNDS!

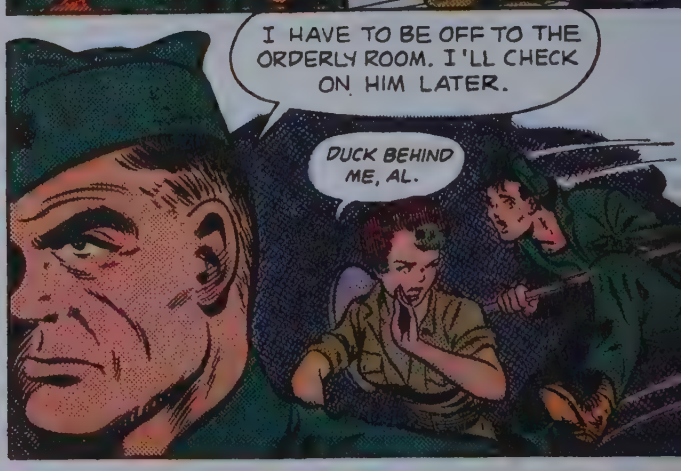
ER-- I CAME IN TO BORROW A BROOM. I WANTED TO DO A THOROUGH JOB!

YOU'LL GET DOWN ON YOUR HAUNCHES AND PICK THINGS UP LIKE EVERYONE ELSE! NOW GET BUSY! IF I SEE YOU GOOFING OFF AGAIN, IT'LL BE THE BRIG.

A FEW MINUTES LATER...
HEY, AL-- HOW ABOUT A REAL BALL GAME? SMALL CHANGE IS ANXIOUS TO LEARN ALL GI SPORTS.
I'M IN HOT WATER UP TO MY EYEBROWS NOW.
SO GO AWAY-- SHOO! IF THE SARGE SEES ME PLAYING BALL, HE'LL BUST A BAT OVER MY HEAD!
WE WON'T PLAY HERE! WE'LL USE THE DESERTED FIELD BY THE OLD SUPPLY ROAD.
NOBODY EVER GOES THERE! AND WE OWE IT TO SMALL CHANGE. HE NEEDS A LITTLE FUN AND RELAXATION.
BUT THAT FIELD HASN'T BEEN USED IN MONTHS!
I THINK IT WAS MINED BY THE COMMIES... MIGHT NOT BE SAFE.
WE'LL RUN A MINE-DETECTOR OVER IT JUST TO MAKE SURE. THEY HAVE ONE AT THE SUPPLY DEPOT.
I'LL GO IN AND GET IT. YOU TWO WAIT HERE.
SWELL, AL.
OF ALL THE LUCK! LOOK WHAT THE WIND BLEW IN!
THE SARGE! IF HE SEES AL--

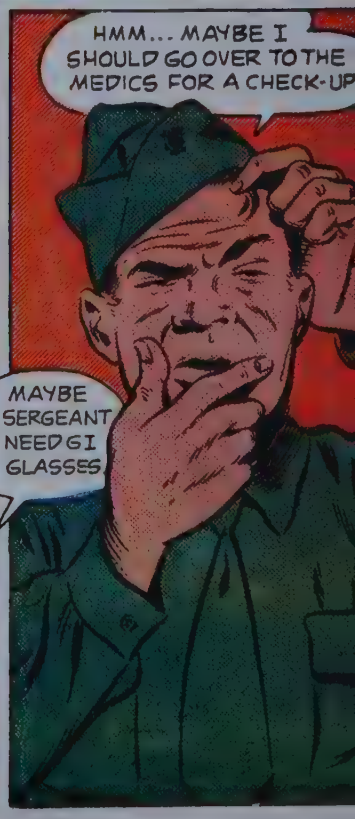
HAVE YOU SEEN THAT PRIZE GOLD-BRICK PRIVATE BROWN AROUND HERE, KATE?
AL? I THINK HE WENT THAT WAY, SERGEANT. HE WAS WORKING AWFULLY HARD!

HE'D BETTER BE WORKING OR HE'LL HAVE BARS ON HIS WINDOWS!
GULP!

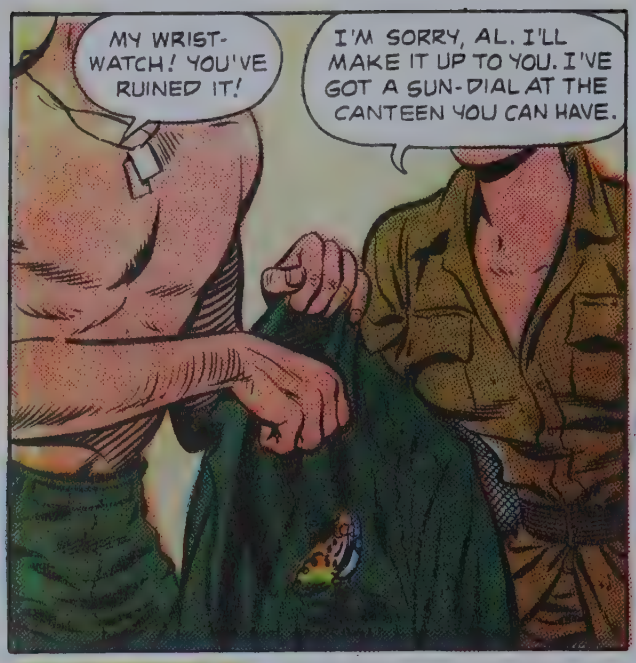

I HAVE TO BE OFF TO THE ORDERLY ROOM. I'LL CHECK ON HIM LATER.
DUCK BEHIND ME, AL.

WHO WERE YOU TALKING TO? DID I HEAR YOU SAY "AL"? AND WHERE DID YOU GET THAT MINE DETECTOR?
WHY, SERGEANT. I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING... AND I HAD THIS ALL THE TIME.

BUT I COULD SWEAR YOU DIDN'T HAVE THAT BEFORE.
YOU'RE WORKING TOO HARD, SERGEANT.


HMM... MAYBE I SHOULD GO OVER TO THE MEDICS FOR A CHECK-UP
MAYBE SERGEANT NEED GI GLASSES

WHEW! THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL!
WELL, THE GUEST LEFT. C'MON.
NOSIREE! THE SERGEANT WILL BE LOOKING FOR ME AGAIN. I'M GOING TO WORK.
ARE YOU A MARINE OR A MOUSE?
SERGEANT NOT FIND US ON BALL FIELD.
FIFTEEN PERSUASIVE MINUTES LATER...
WELL, HERE WE ARE. I'LL RUN THIS DETECTOR OVER THE FIELD. YOU TWO SAVE YOUR STRENGTH FOR THE GAME.
O.K. I'LL PEEL OFF THIS SHIRT AND GET SOME SUN.
THAT'S FUNNY... I THOUGHT I HEARD A TICKING.
ME HEARD SOUND, TOO. TICK-TOCK-TICK...
Z-Z-Z-Z...
IT SEEMS TO COME FROM RIGHT HERE--UNDER AL'S SHIRT.
MAYBE A MINE?
AL! WE THINK THERE'S A MINE UNDER YOUR SHIRT! IT WAS GOING TICK-TICK-TICK--
THAT WAS NO MINE! GET THAT THING OFF MY SHIRT!


MY WRIST-WATCH! YOU'VE RUINED IT!
I'M SORRY, AL. I'LL MAKE IT UP TO YOU. I'VE GOT A SUN-DIAL AT THE CANTEEN YOU CAN HAVE.

I CAN'T WEAR A SUN-DIAL ON MY WRIST.
OH, AL, STOP FUMING!
SMALLCHANGE MOST ANXIOUS FOR BALLGAME

I'VE BEEN OVER THE WHOLE FIELD AND THERE'S NOT A SIGN OF A MINE!
ALL RIGHT. I'LL PITCH. YOU CAN HAVE FIRST LICKS AND SMALL CHANGE CAN CATCH.

THE FASTER YOU THROW THEM IN, THE HARDER I'LL HIT THEM OUT, BUSH-LEAGUER!
IS THAT SO? BET YOU DON'T GET THIS ONE!

OH, NO?

WHAT DID I TELL YOU?
BEGINNER'S LUCK!
MISSY KATE BABE RUTH IN LADY CLOTHES!

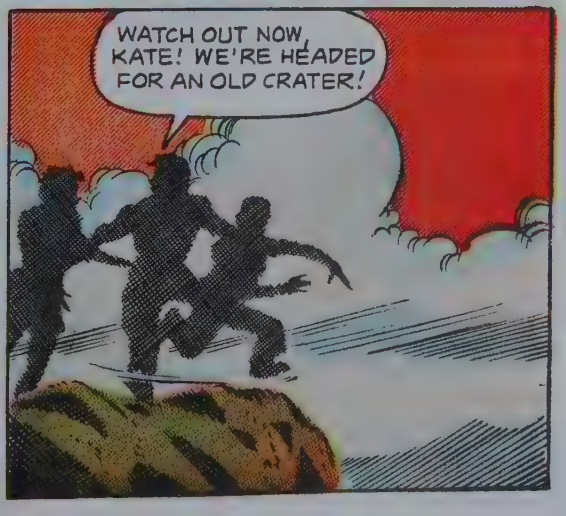
OH, MY ACHING BACK! THIS IS MY END AS A BALLPLAYER! IT'S THE SERGEANT!
AND THE BALL IS HEADED STRAIGHT FOR HIM!
SMALL CHANGE CAN'T LOOK!

OWW!

I'VE LOST CONTROL OF THIS JEEP! HELP!

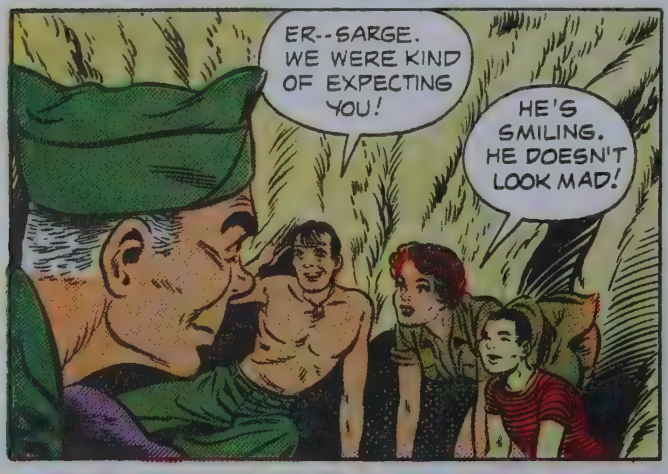
SO! IT'S YOU! I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN IT! YOU'LL ALL GET THE BRIG FOR THIS!
THE BRIG! THAT'S WHERE YOU SHOULD GO! THEN YOU WOULDN'T BE GETTING HIT ON THE HEAD ALL THE TIME!

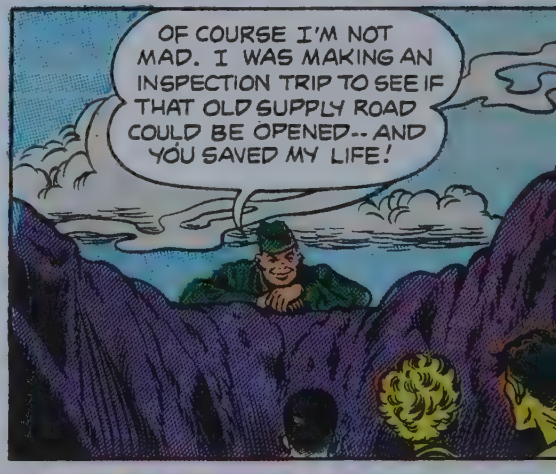
WAIT TILL I GET MY HANDS ON YOU!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE WHILE THE GETTING IS GOOD!
SERGEANT MEANS BUSINESS!


WATCH OUT NOW, KATE! WE'RE HEADED FOR AN OLD CRATER!

THE SERGEANT CAN'T GET US HERE!
DON'T KID YOURSELF!
ANCESTORS! HUMBLE ONE FEELS HE IS COMING FOR VISIT!

BAROOM!!
GOSH! HE'S MADDER THAN I THOUGHT! HE'S SHOOTING AT US!
HE MUST BE SHOOTING A CANNON!


ER--SARGE. WE WERE KIND OF EXPECTING YOU!
HE'S SMILING. HE DOESN'T LOOK MAD!


OF COURSE I'M NOT MAD. I WAS MAKING AN INSPECTION TRIP TO SEE IF THAT OLD SUPPLY ROAD COULD BE OPENED-- AND YOU SAVED MY LIFE!

MY JEEP RAN INTO A MINE AND BLEW UP! IF I HADN'T BEEN KNOCKED OUT OF IT, I'D HAVE BEEN A GONER! HOW ABOUT A GAME OF BALL? NO HARD FEELINGS ANY MORE!

ONE HOUR LATER...
WHATTA YOU MEAN? THAT WAS A BALL? WHATTA YOU MEAN KILL THE UMPIRE? WHAT I SHOULD DO IS THROW THE BUNCH OF YOU IN THE BRIG!
HERE WE GO AGAIN!

FIFTY MILLION FRENCHMEN

KATE HAD A HUNCH THAT SOMETHING WAS UP WHEN MAJOR HERRINGBONE STEPPED INTO THE CANTEEN WITH A VERY SMUG SMILE.

"KATIE," THE MAJOR SAID AS HE FLOPPED DOWN ON A STOOL BY THE COUNTER, "I THINK YOUR PROMOTION IS LONG OVERDUE."

"PROMOTION?" CHIRPED KATE IN BEWILDERMENT. "I DON'T CATCH. PUT IT IN SIMPLER LANGUAGE, SIR. LIKE, DO YOU MEAN I'M TO BE TRANSFERRED?"

"NOT FROM THIS BASE. NO MA'AM!" THE MAJOR WAS VERY EMPHATIC. "YOU MIGHT CALL IT UPGRADED IF THE WORD PROMOTION DOESN'T APPEAL TO YOU," HE ADDED WITH A COY WINK.

KATE SWUNG BEHIND THE COUNTER AND WALKED UP BEHIND THE SODA TAPS UNTIL SHE WAS FACING HIM. KATE DIDN'T LIKE TO BE KEPT IN SUSPENSE.

"OKAY. LET'S HEAR THE NEWS," SHE BLURTED OUT. KATE BRACED HERSELF AGAINST THE EDGE OF THE STAINLESS STEEL SINK FOR THE SHUDDERING ANNOUNCEMENT.

"WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO LEAVE THIS ENLISTED MEN'S CANTEEN AND WORK IN THE OFFICERS' CLUB?" THE MAJOR ASKED IN A PERSUASIVE TONE THAT ALMOST FOOLED KATE FOR AN INSTANT.

"NO, SIR. I WOULD NOT," KATE SAID FLATLY. "OF COURSE, IF THAT'S AN ORDER," SHE ADDED GLUMLY, "I'LL OBEY."

"COME, COME, KATIE!" THE MAJOR WHEEDLED. "SHOW SOME *ESPRIT DE CORPS*!"

"WHAT MIGHT THAT BE?" KATE SAID, SQUINTING AT HIM SHARPLY.

"IT'S A FRENCH EXPRESSION," MAJOR HERRINGBONE TOLD HER. "GIVING A LITERAL TRANSLATION IT MEANS SPIRIT OF THE CORPS. IN MILITARY USAGE IT IS APPLIED THE SAME AS YOU WOULD USE THE WORD ENTHUSIASM WHEN SPEAKING OF MEMBERS OF A GROUP."

"IT SOUNDS TERRIBLE TO ME," KATE TOSSED BACK AT HIM. "BUT I SUPPOSE FIFTY MILLION FRENCHMEN CAN'T BE WRONG. WHEN DO I START?"

"THIS NOON," THE MAJOR SAID, GETTING OFF THE STOOL. "REPORT TO LIEUTENANT MARTIN. HE WILL INFORM YOU OF YOUR DUTIES." BEFORE KATE COULD QUESTION HIM ABOUT THE LATTER DETAIL, MAJOR HERRINGBONE LEFT.

"I'VE GOT TROUBLES," KATE MOANED AS SHE SLIPPED OFF HER APRON. HER REMARK WAS OVERHEARD BY THE MARINES WHO WERE CROWDING IN ON THE WAKE OF HERRINGBONE'S DEPARTURE. THEY ASKED HER WHAT WAS THE TROUBLE, AND SHE GAVE IT TO THEM STRAIGHT.

"THE BRASS WANTS ME OVER AT WONDERLAND."

"BUT YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO US, KATIE!" A BIG PFC WHINED. "WE NEED YOU HERE! WHO'S GONNA TAKE YOUR PLACE? A MESS MAN IN A WHITE COAT?"

"WE HAD ONE OF THOSE ONCE BEFORE," A HARD-FACED PRIVATE GROANED.

AND AS THE NUMBER ONE CONTROVERSY FLAMED ANEW, KATE SLIPPED QUIETLY AROUND THE EDGE OF THE CROWD AND MADE HER WAY OUTSIDE UNNOTICED. IT DIDN'T TAKE HER FIFTEEN MINUTES TO DISCOVER WHY THE BOYS CALLED THE OFFICERS' CLUB "WONDERLAND." THE BUILDING WAS CRAWLING WITH NINETY DAY WONDERS.

THEY CALLED HER "SWEETHEART" AND "MISS" AND ALL THE OTHER NAMES SHE DIDN'T LIKE SUCH AS HOSTESS, SISTER, AND KID. ALL THE BOYS BACK AT THE CANTEEN HAD ALWAYS ADDRESSED HER AS KATE, AND BEFORE THE DAY WAS OVER, SHE HAD BEGUN PLOTTING TO GET BACK WITH THE ENLISTED MEN.

SHE BROKE A FEW PLATES, SPILLED A FEW GLASSES, BUT NONE OF THE OFFICERS SEEMED TO MIND. THEY PUSHED EACH OTHER ASIDE TO TAKE TURNS HELPING HER PICK UP THE PIECES. AT CHOW TIME WHEN THE PLACE WAS EMPTIED, LIEUTENANT MARTIN, A SMUG, EFFICIENT MAN, SENT HER ON AN ERRAND TO THE COMMISSARY. EN ROUTE SHE RAN INTO MARINE PRIVATE ROCKY SAMPSON, A BATTLE-

FRONT VETERAN SERVING HIS SECOND ENLISTMENT. ROCKY'S FACE WAS AS HARD AS THE BOULDERS ON HEARTBREAK RIDGE. AT THE TOP OF HIS ENDLESS GRIPE LIST WERE SECOND LIEUTENANTS OF THE PRE-COMBAT VARIETY.

"YOU DON'T LOOK HAPPY, KATE," HE RASPED IN A TONELESS WHISPER. "WANT ME TO BLOW UP THAT JOINT TONIGHT SO YOU CAN COME BACK TO OUR CANTEEN?"

KATE STOPPED AND TOOK HIS BIG, CALLOUSED HAND. HER NIMBLE MIND SPRANG INTO ACTION. HERE WAS THE MAN TO HELP HER. IF SHE GAVE THE WORD, HE WOULDN'T HESITATE TO DRIVE AN M-26 TANK THROUGH THE CLUB BUILDING AT THE HEIGHT OF THE EVENING RUSH SPELL. BUT DESTRUCTION OF A LESS DRASTIC NATURE COULD SERVE HER PURPOSES.

"JUGGLE A FEW NICE, FULL GARBAGE CANS OVER HERE TONIGHT AFTER CLOSING TIME," SHE TOLD HIM, "AND EMPTY THEM UNDER THE SCREENED VERANDAH. MOTHER NATURE WILL DO THE REST."

"LEAVE IT TO ME, KATE!" ROCKY SAID WITH A GRIN. "I'LL REALLY LOAD THE PIG FEED UNDER THAT PORCH!"

WHEN KATE CAME BACK TO THE CLUB AFTER CHOW SHE WAS CARRYING A SHARP-NOSED PAIR OF SCISSORS IN THE POCKET OF HER SKIRT. THEY WERE SMALL ENOUGH TO BE COVERED BY HER PALM. AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY THAT NIGHT SHE WOULD BACK UP TO THE SCREENED PANELS ALONG THE VERANDAH, JAB THE POINT OF THE SCISSORS INTO THE SCREEN AND THEN SPREAD THE BLADES TO STRETCH THE SCREEN WIRE. IN EACH SPOT THIS WOULD LEAVE A HOLE LARGE ENOUGH FOR A FLY TO ENTER WITHOUT RETRACTING HIS LANDING GEAR.

MAJOR HERRINGBONE SHOWED UP JUST BEFORE CLOSING TIME. HE TAPPED KATE'S SHOULDER AND SAID, "YOUR PRESENCE HAS LIVENED UP THE PLACE, MY DEAR. I KNEW I COULD DEPEND ON YOU TO SHOW REAL *ESPRIT DE CORPS*."

KATE ROLLED INTO HER BUNK THAT NIGHT AND PRAYED THAT ROCKY'S SPECIAL GARBAGE DETAIL WOULD HIT NO SNAG. IN THE MORNING HE WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO GREET HER WHEN SHE LEFT HER BILLET. "EVERYTHING WENT OKAY, KATE!" HE SAID WITH A DEEP CHUCKLE.

"SOON AS THE SUN GETS HOT, YOU'LL NEED TO WEAR A GAS MASK IN THAT JOINT."

KATE WINKED AT HIM, AND WENT OFF TO BREAKFAST. A COUPLE OF YARDBIRDS WERE MOPPING UP THE CLUB WHEN KATE SHOWED UP TO HELP LIEUTENANT MARTIN WITH THE ACCOUNTS AND REQUISITIONS. THE FAINT AROMA OF GARBAGE WAS ALREADY AFLOAT ON THE BREEZE. MARTIN WENT OUT IN THE FORENOON, AND KATE SAT BACK TO LET MOTHER NATURE TAKE HER COURSE.

BEFORE NOON A NOXIOUS ODOR ENVELOPED THE IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS. HOUSE FLIES, HORSE FLIES, FRUIT FLIES AND MANY OTHER VARIETIES CAME IN SQUADRONS! THE VERANDAH SCREEN WAS BLACK WITH THEM, AND THE MORE ADVENTUROUS ONES FOUND THEIR WAY THROUGH THE HOLES KAT HAD PUNCHED THROUGH THE SCREEN.

LIEUTENANT MARTIN RETURNED, HOLDING HIS NOS WITH HIS LEFT HAND AND FANNING AWAY FLIES WI HIS RIGHT. KATE WAS SITTING BETWEEN TWO ELEC TRIC FANS FOR PROTECTION.

"I HATE THIS AWFUL PLACE!" SHE GROANED. "AN- OTHER DAY HERE AND YOU'LL HAVE TO SEND ME T THE INFIRMARY!"

NERVOUS PERSPIRATION BROKE OUT ON LIEUTENANT MARTIN'S FACE. "I'LL SPEAK TO MAJOR HERRINGBONE, KATE. HE SHOULD BE ALONG ANY MOMENT NOW. OH, HERE HE COMES!"

HERRINGBONE FOUGHT HIS WAY THROUGH ATTACK FORMATIONS OF WINGED INSECTS, THINKING HE WOULD FIND SAFETY INSIDE THE SCREEN DOOR. HE YIPPED, CLAWED AT HIS NECK, AND IN GENERA BEHAVED IN NO WAY BECOMING TO AN OFFICER. KATE SWALLOWED HARD TO KEEP FROM LAUGHING THEN WITH A STRAIGHT FACE SHE STOOD UP AND CAME BEFORE HIM. "SORRY, MAJOR, BUT I'VE LOST MY *ESPRIT DE CORPS*. I CAN'T STAND THIS PLACE ANY LONGER. YOU'LL HAVE TO BREAK ME ONE GRADE. I'M GOING BACK TO THE ENLISTED MEN'S CANTEEN WHERE THE AIR IS SWEETER AND THE FLIES ARE FEWER."

SHE WAS GONE BEFORE HERRINGBONE COULD UNTANGLE HIS TONGUE. HE BRUSHED THE FLIES AWAY FROM THE SCREEN TO OBTAIN VISIBILITY, AND WATCHED KATE TRAIPSING AWAY. "SHE CAN'T DO THIS TO US, LIEUTENANT! OF COURSE, SHE'LL BE BACK. SHE'S ONLY TAKING FRENCH LEAVE UNTIL WE'VE ELIMINATED THE SOURCE OF HER COMPLAIN ER, HAVE YOU DETERMINED YET WHAT IT MAY BE?

"GARBAGE," SAID LIEUTENANT MARTIN. "I'M AFRAI YOUR IDEA WAS NOT POPULAR WITH THE ENLISTED MEN. I SHALL MAKE A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION."

BUT LIEUTENANT MARTIN'S PROBE WENT NO FURTHER THAN A BRIEF SESSION WITH KATE AT THE CANTEEN A SHORT WHILE LATER.

"DID YOU SEE OR HAVE YOU HEARD ANY REPORT OF A MARINE DUMPING GARBAGE CANS UNDER THE PORCH OF THE OFFICERS' CLUB?" HE ASKED HER.

"A MARINE?" KATE ASKED INNOCENTLY. "WHY, NO BUT YOU CAN TELL MAJOR HERRINGBONE I DID SE A FRENCHMAN. I BELIEVE HIS NAME WAS ALPHONS HE WAS SELLING PERFUME, AND WHEN I REFUSED TO BUY FROM HIM HE SAID, 'JUST YOU WAIT, M'AM SELLE!' WELL, I WAITED, AND YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENED. THE FRENCHMAN GOT HIS REVENGE!"

LIEUTENANT MARTIN GAVE KATE A FRIGHTENED LOOK AS HE HURRIEDLY BACKED OUT THE CANTEEN DOOR, AND SHE HASN'T SEEN HIM SINCE!

THE END

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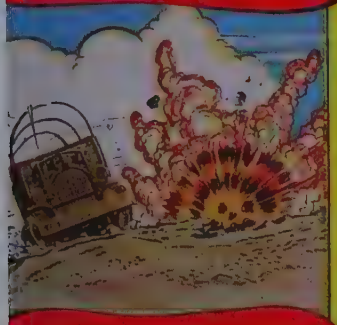

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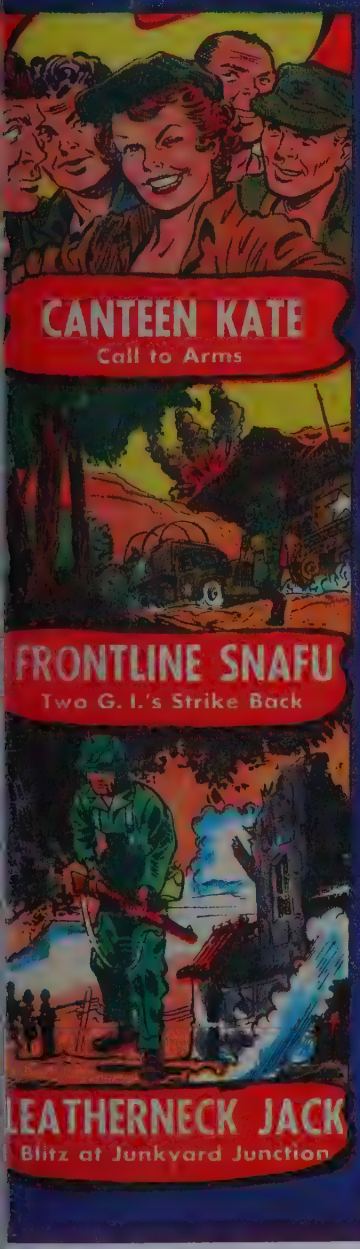

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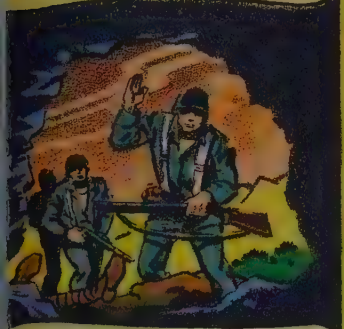

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INTRODUCTION BY STEVEN RINGGENBERG

Matt Baker

COLLECTED FOR THE FIRST TIME...
A SLAPHAPPY SALUTE TO A 'GOOD GIRL' SCREWBALL

After honing his skills through the 1940s for several comics publishers, Matt Baker's tremendous talents came to fruition at St. John Publications, where his realistic style was showcased in western, mystery, and especially romance comics. But regardless of the comic's genre, one through-line emerged in all of Baker's work: his naturalistically gorgeous women. During this prolific period in his career, this master of "good girl" art latched onto one of St. John's only recurring characters, Kate of *Canteen Kate*. Baker drew every installment of the candid wartime cutie, from her premiere in *Fightin' Marines* (1951) to her final bow in *Anchors Andrews* (1953).

Unlike the jingoistic comics typically published during the Korean War, *Canteen Kate* tales were designed to be morale-boosting screwball fun. Without radically changing his style, Baker managed to make Kate equal parts comely and kooky in a series of stories that leaned heavily on silly hijinks in a military mess hall.

Every *Canteen Kate* story ever published—22 in all—is collected for the first time in *The Lost Art of Matt Baker*, judiciously restored and enlarged 20 percent over their original published size. A rich introduction by veteran comics writer Steven Ringgenberg provides insightful historical and biographical context, and a bonus gallery spotlights Baker's skills as a cover artist. Best of all, Baker and his good-time gal bring you weapons-grade guffaws as well as art that will leave you eager to see more from this master draftsman.

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Wartime Romances

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